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A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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IN THE LAST LAP.

We are desired by the Publisher to remind Advertisers that the

Summer Issue

must be put to press in a few days, and that he cannot guarantee the insertion of any announcement intended for the ordinary advertisement pages if received after

Tuesday Morning, July 25.

For the Coloured Supplement small advertisements are accepted for next week's issue up till 2 P.M. on Thursday, July 27, but any coming in after that hour will be held over until the issue of August 5.

Summary of this Issue.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

National Insurance Bill.

We report Parliamentary happenings, interviews, meetings, and various other matters connected with the Bill in the section pp. 51-4.

Eleven clauses of the Bill have passed the Committee stage—the eleventh at 5.17 on Thursday morning (p. 51).

An amendment to Clause 14 has now been put forward on behalf of apothecaries' assistants and those who have dispensed for doctors during seven years (p. 51).

Sir Donald MacAlister, President of the General Medical Council, in a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, suggests *inter alia* an amendment to ensure that local Health Committees should arrange for the supply of medicines by qualified pharmacists (p. 52).

The time is now exceedingly critical for chemists. So far they have made all sorts of suggestions about the terms on which they should supply medicines. But now there is some doubt as to their getting that supply at all. Hence we urge upon all local Chemists' Associations, and groups of chemists in constituencies where there are none, to write to their M.P.s the letter which we have drafted (p. 48), getting it signed by chemists and posting it to M.P.s not later than Monday, July 24.

The letter brings under the notice of M.P.s the important point that the statutory authority in regard to the practice of medicine (the General Medical Council) suggests that the supply of medicines should be by qualified pharmacists. Chemists should bring this fact home to Parliament, for they will need every bit of influence at the beginning of next week to get recognition under the Bill.

Articles and News.

The Committee stage of the Shops Bill was concluded on Thursday (p. 45).

The latest statistics in regard to the trade of South Africa are given on p. 58.

A new pharmaceutical curriculum is proposed in Hungary. The particulars are given on p. 38.

Mr. R. F. Graesser, of Ruabon, manufacturer of carbolic acid, died suddenly last Saturday (p. 41).

Mr. R. C. Cowley communicates a paper, with formula, on the preparation of aromatic extract of cascara sagrada (p. 45).

The pass-lists of the London Major and Minor Pharmaceutical examinations are printed on p. 43, and the Irish lists on p. 36.

A summary of an interesting paper on conical cornea recently read by Mr. Charles Wray before the Ophthalmological Society is printed on p. 56.

An interesting case is reported from the High Court, in which a dentist sought unsuccessfully to enforce a restrictive agreement on an old apprentice (p. 39).

Two cases under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act are reported, in which the offence was the use of magnesium carbonate in preparing Gregory's powder (p. 39).

The Natal Pharmaceutical Association has had a fairly good year. We report the annual meeting, including Mr. Elgie's presidential address and his re-election to the office (p. 58).

The British Pharmaceutical Conference will meet in Portsmouth next week. Members of the Local Committee will await trains, and will wear a badge, of which we give a sketch on p. 44, with other notes about the meeting, including the Executive's report on the abortive negotiations with the British Medical Association.

Trade and Market Matters.

The price of opium is now at a dangerously high level, and buyers are acting cautiously. See the editorial on p. 49.

Trading continues on quiet lines, with several interesting features. Opium has fully recovered from last week's easier feeling; cascara, senega, almond oil (B.P.), acetic acid, and potashes have advanced. American peppermint-oil is very firm; cocaine is 1s. 5d. lower (p. 59).

CORNER FOR STUDENTS.

Conducted by Leonard Dobbin, Ph.D.

Oxidation and Reduction in Chemical Analysis.—IV.

DRY-WAY testing.—A number of the operations carried out in dry-way testing are designed to produce oxidising or reducing effects.

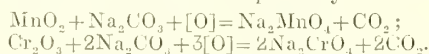
1. **Oxidation by atmospheric oxygen.**—Atmospheric oxygen at a high temperature is one of the most important agencies concerned in dry-way tests.

a. Borax beads.—When borax beads are heated in the oxidising Bunsen flame with a view to obtaining characteristic colour-effects, the oxidation, if any takes place, is due to the action of atmospheric oxygen, at the high temperature of the flame, upon the substance dissolved in the bead. The most powerfully oxidising effects are obtained by holding the bead in the flame at a level slightly below the top of the inner cone, where the temperature is highest, and close to the outside of the flame where it is in the immediate neighbourhood of an abundant supply of oxygen from the surrounding air. When oxidation takes place, it usually consists in the conversion of the metaborate corresponding to the lower basic oxide of the metal concerned, into that corresponding to the higher basic oxide.

b. Blowpipe and charcoal block.—The oxidising agency here, again, is atmospheric oxygen at the very high temperature of the tip of the outer (oxidising) blowpipe flame. The effect is the formation of an oxide of the metal concerned if the metal is capable of direct oxidation.

c. Film tests.—In these tests the oxide films are produced by interaction with oxygen during the passage through the outer (oxidising) mantle of the Bunsen flame of the vapours of metals which have been formed by the reduction of compounds of these metals in the inner (reducing) flame (see 3, *c*, in article V.).

2. **Oxidation by potassium nitrate.**—Potassium nitrate is almost the only oxidising agent employed in dry-way testing. It is used in conjunction with sodium carbonate in bead tests for manganese and chromium. In order that a manganous and a chromic compound may be converted into a manganate and a chromate respectively, it is imperative that a basic substance (to provide the metallic radical of the manganate or chromate) and a source of oxygen (to effect the necessary oxidation) should be available. In the so-called sodium-carbonate bead tests the sodium carbonate provides the metallic radical, while the oxygen is almost invariably supplied by potassium nitrate, KNO_3 , a salt which readily parts with one-third of its oxygen to oxidisable substances at a moderate temperature and becomes reduced to potassium nitrite, KNO_2 . The following equations represent the conversion of manganese dioxide and of chromic oxide into sodium manganate and sodium chromate respectively:



The changes represented by these equations could be carried out, in the absence of potassium nitrate, by the prolonged heating of the sodium-carbonate beads in the oxidising mantle of the Bunsen flame, but the actions proceed too slowly for practical purposes. The student should, nevertheless, note this fact.

PILL PROPRIETOR'S BOND.—On Thursday, in the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, London, Mr. H. A. Driver Holloway was the defendant in an action brought by the London General Omnibus Co. to recover 117*l.* due on a bond in which Mr. Holloway consented to become surety for a Mr. Walter Alfred Lee. The action was heard by the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury. After hearing Mr. Holloway's evidence the Lord Chief Justice said he would hold that the defendant signed the bond innocently and without knowledge of Lee's irregularities before the time he signed it. The result was that counsel decided to argue at a later date whether, on the authorities, the plaintiffs could, in the circumstances, recover the amount claimed.

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Chesterfield chemists have decided to close at 8 P.M. on each weekday except Saturdays.

Messrs. F. M. Rimmington & Son, chemists, Bridge Street, Bradford, were awarded a first prize in a trades display at Bradford on July 13, for an exhibit of table-waters.

The employes of Hervey, Peek & Hervey, manufacturing chemists, Ordsall Lane, Salford, have presented a silver rose-bowl to Mr. Philip Hervey, a member of the firm, on his marriage.

Messrs. Metcalfe & Son, chemists, Whitefriar Gate, Hull, have been appointed by Royal warrant dated March 1, 1911, chemists in Hull to King George. This is the third Royal appointment granted to the firm.

Mr. H. W. Blackadar, chemist and druggist, has resigned his seat on the Portsmouth Borough Council. The auditors had reported a technical breach of Section 12 (c) of the Municipal Corporations Act against the councillor.

Premises adjoining the Somers Road branch of the Timothy White Co., Ltd., at Southsea, and let by them to a cabinet-maker, were entirely gutted by fire on July 13. Some water found its way into the back of the company's shop, but the damage there was not serious.

The Shifnal Guardians were informed on July 11 that since the Board decided some years ago to keep a stock of drugs, instead of them being supplied by the doctor, the whisky bill, which had been considerable, had gone down to comparatively nothing.

Mr. F. D. Phillips, pharmacist, of Market Street and Castle Square, Haverfordwest, has again been successful in securing the silver cup and first prize for best style, etc., in climbing Newgate Hill, Pembrokeshire, on his $3\frac{1}{2}$ -h.p. 1911 Triumph motor-cycle, under the auspices of the Pembrokeshire Automobile Club.

At Fareham on July 17, application was made for the transfer of the licence for the sale of medicated wines from Mr. W. O. Smith, chemist, 32 West Street, Fareham, to Mr. Ferdinand Green Foster, pharmacist. Neither Mr. Smith nor Mr. Foster appeared, they being represented by their respective managers. The Bench pointed out that they could not proceed with the application unless at least Mr. Foster was present, and they refused to sanction the transfer.

The eighth quinquennial International Homœopathic Congress was opened at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., on July 17, and Mr. George Burford was elected President. The resignation of Dr. John H. Clarke (Permanent Secretary) was accepted, and Dr. J. P. Sutherland (U.S.A.) was unanimously elected as his successor. The delegates accepted the invitation of Dr. Kranz Busch to hold the next congress (1916) in Berlin. The President's address was delivered on July 18.

Six children, aged two to ten years, were admitted into the Birmingham General Hospital suffering from belladonna-poisoning. It appears that one of them, named Gertie Brinklow, found a small tin containing a dark thick fluid (? glycerin of belladonna) on a window-sill. She assumed it was treacle, and on finding it sweet to the palate, she took the tin home, where the other children partook of it spread on bread. The children were treated at the hospital, and were practically recovered next morning.

A convention of the members of the staff of the National Cash Register Co., Ltd., which included 200 travellers, was held at the offices of the company, 225 Tottenham Court Road, London, W., on July 13, 14 and 15. Mr. John H. Patterson, chairman and general manager of the American company, presided. The meetings were devoted to discussions on business methods. On the evening of July 15 a dinner was held at the Hotel Cecil. Mr. Patterson was in the chair, the other speakers being Mr. F. B. Patterson, Mr. F. A. Wagner (auditor), Mr. H. C. Banwell (manager), and Mr. F. L. Hooper (secretary). A presentation was made to Mr. John H. Patterson.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The Southwark analyst reports that sixteen drug-samples were examined during last quarter. All were genuine.

The Windsor Town Council have appointed Mr. J. H. Johnston, M.Sc., F.I.C., Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C., as analyst for the borough, at a fee of 10*l.* per annum to cover 40 samples, and 5*s.* per sample beyond.

The Hertfordshire analyst, Mr. A. E. Ekins, Ph.C., F.I.C., in his last quarterly report, states that the following genuine samples were examined: Camphorated oil 2, eucalyptus oil 1, cream of tartar 1, arrowroot 1, lime-water 1, olive oil 1, and compound rhubarb pills 1.

Contracts.

Cranbrook Guardians.—Hooper & Co. for two air-cushions at 13*s.* each.

Grantham Town Council.—B. & J. Fillingham, chemists, Grantham, for drugs, etc.

Brierley Hill Urban Council.—Killgerm Co., Ltd., Cleckheaton, for disinfectants.

Hull.—Mr. R. B. Sawyer, chemist, Hull, for the supply of drugs to the City Asylum for six months.

Finchley Urban District Council.—Adcocks, and Sanitas, Ltd., for the annual supply of disinfectants.

Metropolitan Asylums Board.—Townson & Mercer, for a supply of special test-tubes to the bacteriological laboratories.

Lowestoft Town Council.—Mr. R. Bush, chemist, Lowestoft, for six months' supply of chemist's goods to the hospital.

Government Contracts.—*India Office*: Parke, Davis & Co., for acetozone; Arnold & Sons, for catheters; Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Edinburgh, for chloroform and ether; Burroughs Wellcome & Co., for gauze and tablets; W. Montgomery & Co., for soda nitrate; Robinson & Sons, Chesterfield, for wool. *Crown Agents for the Colonies*: Colthurst & Harding, for zinc white.

Poison-licences.

Mr. W. J. W. Troup, assistant to Messrs. J. C. Wheeler & Son, Ltd., nurserymen, 99 Northgate Street, Gloucester, and Mr. Joseph Wilson, 101 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne, have applied to their local authorities for poison-licences.

Poison-licences Renewed.

Winchester.—H. S. & S. Frampton, Jewry Street.

Grantham.—C. Sharpe & Co., Ltd., and W. & J. Brown.

Berwick-on-Tweed.—Mr. J. T. Robson, ironmonger, etc., Bridge Street, and Mr. W. Anderson, florist, Hide Hill.

Cardiff.—At a meeting of the Health and Port Sanitary Committee a letter was read from the Hon. Secretary of the Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association, stating that as each of the holders of poison-licences had been fined under the Act and regulations, the Association protested against their renewal, and also against assistants being licensed. The Committee determined to take notice of any further offences and revoke or suspend the licences, as they may then determine. Communications were also read from Herbert Walker, Kingsway, asking that the licence which was made out in the name of "W. E. Walker" be made out in his name. A similar letter had been received from Mr. F. A. Hibbert, 10 and 11 Castle Street, Cardiff (the 1909 application being signed by "John Hibbert & Sons"). Both Mr. Walker and Mr. Hibbert had appeared before the Committee when the matter had been argued. The Committee decided to renew the licences for a year from June 14, at a fee of 1*s.* 6*d.* each. It was also resolved that no applications for assistants' licences be considered until the Inspector of Nuisances is in possession of the new order of the Council.

Birmingham Notes.

An excellent friend to pharmacy has just died, Mr. Furneaux Jordan, F.R.C.S., for many years an esteemed medical practitioner in the Midlands.

By the falling of a large hoarding several men engaged at Messrs. Peyton & Sons' chemical works were more or less seriously injured and had to undergo hospital treatment.

The Chairmanship of the Oldbury Magistrates has been accepted by Mr. G. S. Albright, of the firm of Albright & Wilson, Ltd., and not by the Rt. Hon. J. W. Wilson, M.P., also of the same firm, as reported in our issue of July 8.

The Moseley Gymkhana in aid of the Children's Hospital at Moseley was held last Saturday, when an excellent photograph of the gathering was taken by Mr. T. W. Lowther, which appeared in the "South Birmingham News."

Under the Greater Birmingham scheme the present inspectors under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts are to be attached to the Council House, and the city analyst is to have another assistant analyst, whose salary will begin at 100*l.* per annum.

The annual meeting of the British Medical Association is to be held in Birmingham next week, and as it is of great importance and interest to pharmacists, it is feared that not many will be able to turn up at the Portsmouth Conference from the Midlands.

At the chemists' meeting at the Grand Hotel last week it was suggested that "pharmacist" implies legal qualification. But does it? Are there not pharmacists in America, etc., and would they be allowed, if they came here, to act as dispensers under the Insurance Bill?

Cricket.

Drug-trade Championship.—The British Drug Houses C.C. and Burgoyne Burbidge's C.C. met at Crofton Park on July 15. The latter club gained a somewhat easy win. Scores: B.B.C.C., 146 for 9 (declared); B.D.H.C.C., 31. The chief scorers for the winners were: Revell (34), Heaven (24), and Sullivan (21). Martin took 5 wickets for 11 runs.

From Various Courts.

At Surrey Assizes on July 19, Eliza Cornwell (14), servant girl, pleaded guilty to having administered poison so as to endanger the life of her mistress Mrs. Gladys Baker, of Avondale Road, Croydon. She was sent to a home for two years.

At the Central Criminal Court on July 18, Edward Fitzgerald pleaded guilty to a charge of falsifying books with intent to defraud his employers, Marshalls, Ltd., Colebrooke Row, Islington, London, N. The total defalcations amounted to some 1,400*l.* It was stated that accused was tempted to live beyond his means through his aunt renting to him at a nominal charge a large house with four acres of land attached. Sentence was postponed until next sessions.

At the inquiry into the death of Mrs. Eliza Alice Butcher (32), Caunce Street, Blackpool, on July 17, it was stated that a post-mortem examination showed that acute kidney-disease was the cause of death. A bottle of medicine and two boxes of tablets, said to be supplied by a woman (whose name was mentioned), were said by Dr. Thompson to contain lead and to be largely used in Lancashire. The Coroner adjourned the inquest until August 22, in order that the medicines be analysed.

At Gosport Police Court on July 18, Thomas Buller, an elderly man, was fined 7*s.* 6*d.*, including costs, for obtaining money by false pretences from Mr. Ernest H. Smith, chemist, 47 High Street, Gosport. The prisoner on July 15 asked Mr. Smith the price of a truss. He said he wanted the price put on the prosecutor's billhead so that he could show the vicar, who was buying it for him. The next that prosecutor heard was that the prisoner was collecting money on the billhead, and he communicated with the police.

At Stockport on July 13, Pritchard's, Ltd., chemists, Cheadle, were fined 5*s.* and costs for using a van not bearing the name and address of the firm. It appeared that the van bore the words, "Pritchard's, Ltd., safe and reliable teething-powders give ease and comfort during teething." This was regarded by the police as an advertisement. For the defence it was explained that the firm had not the address painted on the van because it travelled all over the country, and they did not want customers to write direct to them, but to their agents.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.—The following have passed with honours: Malachy Joseph O'Callaghan, Gormanstown, co. Limerick; Henry Francis Moore, Bangor, co. Down; and George Henry Hadden, Ranelagh, co. Dublin. The following have also passed: James Rowland Guiler, Belfast; Richard Joseph Swanton, Rathmines, co. Dublin; John Mockler, Thurles; Denis McCarthy, Youghal; John William Hogan, Dublin. Twenty candidates were rejected.

Registered Druggist Examination.—The following have passed: David Robert Buller, Dundalk; Wilfred James Hay, Cork; John Edward Hudson, Newry; Joseph Shillington, Ballymena; John Andrew Kabbie Thompson, Lisburn. Six candidates were rejected.

Pharmaceutical Assistant Examination.—The following have passed: James Cathcart Boyle, Ballymena; Charles Wilson Inlay, Dublin. One candidate was rejected.

Brevities.

Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., Dublin, have secured the War Office running contract for surgical materials and repairs in Ireland.

A correspondent of the "Freeman's Journal" complains that late the other night he called at four well-known pharmacies in Dublin and failed to get an answer to the night-bell.

The Governors of the Richmond District Asylum, Dublin, are about to appoint a contractor for the supply of drugs and medicine and surgical requisites for the next three years and seven months from August 1 to March 31, 1915.

There were two applicants for the position of analyst to the Abbeyleix Union—Mr. Walter Thorpe, at 21*l.* per annum and one guinea for each sample of water, and Mr. H. Tatton, 28*l.* a year. As the terms were considered excessive it was decided to advertise again.

The analyst to the Wexford Guardians, reporting on a defective sample of liniment of ammonia supplied by the contractor, states that the deficiency might be caused by the bottles not being properly sealed. The contractor holds that the standard set by the Local Government Board is too high.

At co. Antrim Assizes, in Belfast on July 17, a commercial traveller named Charles Cutting was tried for having on February 10 obtained 5*l.* by false pretences from Mr. J. A. Hanna, director of Messrs. Boyd & Co., druggists, Lisburn. Prisoner wrote a cheque on the Clydesdale Bank for 5*l.* and got cash for it, and it was afterwards ascertained there was no money in the bank to meet the cheque. A previous conviction was proved, and the Judge passed a sentence of three months' hard labour, adding that it covered an offence for which the prisoner was wanted in Londonderry.

Personal.

Willie Tyrie Turner, son of Mr. J. Tyrie Turner, Ph.C., Carrick-on-Suir, won the 100 yards (brass inkstand), the 220 yards (silver medal), the swimming championship (silver medal), and the "Old Boys" challenge cup, with medal, and was second in the long jump at Clebury Mortimer College sports on July 15. Last year he won three firsts and two second prizes.

Mr. Abraham Porter, Ph.C., 90 Albertbridge Road, Belfast, has just passed his first professional examination for M.B. at Queen's University in Belfast with honours and 10*l.* prize. He also obtained several class prizes, and all the time has been carrying on his pharmacy business. Mr. Porter is a man of considerable versatility. He speaks several languages fluently, these including Dutch, Kaffir, German, and Hebrew. He served his apprenticeship with Sir William J. Baxter, D.L., Coleraine, and was some years with Mr. Nicholl, High Street, Belfast. Then he went to South Africa, and after serving in the war entered business at Pretoria and Volkrust in partnership with J. Peacock & Co. He was also for some time in Johan-

nesburg. Returning to Ireland, he carried on business in Irvinestown, co. Fermanagh, subsequently acquiring the business originally founded on the Albertbridge Road, Belfast, by Mr. S. M. Reid, now retired.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Edinburgh.

Mr. J. Douglas Lunan, younger son of Mr. George Lunan, Ph.C., F.C.S., Edinburgh, took the French prize at Daniel Stewart's College last week, and was also awarded the James M. Bryson Bursary of 15*l.*

Mr. J. L. Ewing (Duncan, Flockhart & Co.), Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B. (Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the Glasgow University), and Councillor Inman were received by the King at the Levee in Holyrood Palace on Tuesday, July 18.

In the final of the Hole-and-Hole competition for the "T. & H. Smith" cup, under the auspices of the Edinburgh Chemists' Golf Club, Mr. Wm. Gibb beat Mr. G. W. Mangan. The semi-finalists were Mr. Thos. Laurie and Mr. A. Landale Rankine. In the monthly competition for the "Gibson" handicap medal the prizewinners were: 1. Mr. A. Douglas; 2. Mr. Geo. Baxter; and 3. Mr. N. Brown.

There is a sort of carnival spirit hovering over the city these days; and business has been considerably better, especially with those who secure the visitors' custom. One local pharmacist has had the pleasure of parting with several articles that have adorned the shop shelves for years, and he states half-regretfully that he now possesses only three specimens of proprietary medicines which he purchased on starting business well-nigh a score of years ago.

Local chemists generally did not go in for elaborate schemes of decoration this week on the occasion of the King's visit. Mr. Davidson, Tollcross Corner, had a goodly display of bunting; but Messrs. Boots' new premises in Princes Street were easily first in order of merit. The hoarding was painted purple, and several chaste designs, electrically illuminated each night, occupied the central portion. What made this display so effective was the entire absence of any suggestion of business advertisement.

FRENCH NEWS.

From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

THE DEATH is announced of Dr. Leon Marchand, ex-Professor of Cryptogamy at the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy.

PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—At the July meeting MM. Moureu and Patein were appointed delegates to the section of pharmacy, organised in connection with the meeting of the French Association for the Advancement of Science. The President complimented M. Léger, Hanbury medallist, amid the loud cheers of all assembled, and greeted M. Michel, a newly elected member.

HANBURY MEDALLIST.—M. Léger, who is to receive the Hanbury medal in October, is head pharmacist of the St. Louis Hospital and a familiar figure to all Parisian and many British pharmacists. The Beaujon Hospital, where he was for many years (1886-1911) head pharmacist, is in the "English" quarter of Paris, not far from the Champs Elysées. He has been a member of the Paris Society of Pharmacy since 1884, and one of the most regular attendants at its monthly meetings. He thus occupied the presidential chair when the society celebrated its centenary in 1903. M. Léger was present at the International Congress of Applied Chemistry in London in 1909, presenting a paper on "Simple Oils Interesting to Pharmacists." He has published a volume on cinchona alkaloids, etc., and received the Buignet medal of the Academy of Medicine for his researches on hordenine. He was born at Paris in 1849.

DRUG-PEDDLING IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.—A legal document in the Melun Record Office gives the list of the

goods possessed by Pierre René, drug-pedlar, who was found dead at an inn in 1759. His "asinine beast, grey-skinned, and furnished with saddle and bridle," was in the stables, and his stock-in-trade in his room. The list is interesting as showing the class of goods in which these itinerant vendors principally dealt:

Theriac, basilicon, hyacinth, oil of laurel, turpentine, tartar, althea, populeum, catholicon, vitriol, senna, jalap, rhubarb, scammony, sulphur, corrosive sublimate, aloes, dragon's blood, etc.

These unlicensed pedlars strolled round the country not only to farmers and labourers, but to surgeons and vets. They were particularly detested by the apothecaries, and in many provinces edicts existed providing for heavy fines (up to 40*l.*) for those who bought from them.

"OLD-FASHIONED REMEDIES."—M. Félix Duquesnel, author of the "Two Thousand and One Nights" and other charming works of imagination, contributes a couple of columns to the "Petit Journal" on old-fashioned remedies. His tales of the heroic days of pharmacy when Louis XIII. was purged 259 times per annum and Richelieu swallowed decoctions of road-sweepings, will present little novelty to the readers of Mr. Wootton's and similarly interesting books; but M. Duquesnel, like all good writers, gives a personal note to his article. He tells us that in the North of France, faith in the efficacy of the pigeon-cure for typhoid "is still strong and will be with difficulty shaken." Three luckless birds are ripped open and their warm and bleeding bodies applied on the feet and stomach as cataplasms. "I have known people," says M. Duquesnel, "who firmly believed in this, and yet were by no means simple." He also alludes to the fact that "St. Hubert's omelette" is still considered in many country places to be preferable to the Pasteur injections for persons bitten by mad dogs.

POISONOUS INSECTICIDES.—The use of arsenical dressings in French vineyards has been strongly denounced by M. Cazeneuve, Senator, in a letter addressed to the Prime Minister. The matter was again brought up by the eminent professor at the last meeting of the Academy of Medicine. Several fatal cases had occurred. One man died in three days, but the action of the poison (as M. Pouchet, ex-member of the French Codex Revision Committee, remarked) is usually slower, though not less sure. Tons of arsenate of lead are used in the vineyards, and in some cases, said M. Bouchardat, the vinegrowers not only powdered the leaves but the very grapes. M. Cazeneuve pointed out that arsenic is as inefficient against the cochylis (the dreaded vineyard parasite) as it is dangerous, and is "forbidden in Germany and other civilised countries." M. Gaston Bonnier read, at the Academy of Sciences, a paper by M. Varenne, who states that a mixture of poppy oil one part with benzine four parts is an efficient deterrent for cochylis, and inexpensive. The discussion on arsenical compounds was resumed at the meeting of the Academy last week, and the following resolution was finally, though not quite unanimously, passed:

"In view of duly proved accidents, and to avoid their responsibility, the Academy of Medicine thinks it its duty to remind the authorities of the resolutions it had previously adopted: (1) Arsenical salts for agricultural use should only be delivered on the recommendation of professors of agriculture and on permission given by proper authorities. Those having lead as a base should be prohibited. (2) They should be coloured and scented; (3) kept under lock and key; (4) always supplied under real and not fancy names; (5) prohibited on market gardening, and as soon as fruit season begins; (6) and only used on the indication, and under the effective direction and supervision, of the departmental Professors of Agriculture."

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

NO SMOKING IN WARSAW PHARMACIES. — To those acquainted with the Russian's passion for smoking cigarettes at all times it will come as a surprise to hear that the health inspector of Warsaw has issued a decree forbidding pharmacists to smoke in any place in which medicines are prepared. If an assistant fails to comply

with this order, he is to be dismissed. Notices are to be displayed in pharmacies forbidding the public to smoke while on the premises.

MUNICIPAL COMPETITION IN BULGARIAN PHARMACY.—Two years ago the Bulgaria pharmacy laws were altered to allow municipalities and other communal corporations the right to open pharmacies. Although these businesses were intended solely to supply the requisite medicines for the poor of the town or village, they soon began to compete with the regular pharmacies, and the apprehensions entertained by the profession have since been fully realised. The first result of this form of competition has been the failure of the pharmacist (his name is Karparone) owning a business in Kawakli, who has been forced to close his pharmacy. Curiously enough, he is about to undertake the management of the municipal pharmacy in Philippopol.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

A RECORD SEIZURE of cocaine and morphine of the value of Rs. 30,000 was made on the *Glen Oyle* at Rangoon on June 26.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. R. Dalton, Ph.C., has taken over the business of Messrs. Beynon & Co., chemists, East Street, Poona, and it will be continued under the style of R. Dalton & Co.

WARNING TO QUININE-TABLET MAKERS.—A Calcutta correspondent writes that 16,500 bottles, each containing at least 300 2-grain quinine tablets, had been offered in a local saleroom, and the best bid was 3½*d.* per bottle. The lot was in the hands of a bank, and this fact indicates caution on part of sellers at home in accepting orders. India is at present overstocked with quinine and quinine tablets.

POISONS IN INDIA.—In the course of the annual report of the Chemical Examiner, Madras, it is stated that, under the stringent provisions of the Poisons Act of 1904, "as the rules have become more effective, the operations of the poisoner have thereby become more restricted." A notable feature of the report is the decrease recorded in the number of cases detected of arsenical, mercurial, and aconite poisoning.

QUININE DISTRIBUTION.—A resolution on the transfer of the work of distributing quinine from the Superintendent of Cinchona Cultivation in Bengal to the gaoi department is published in the "Calcutta Gazette." Under the existing procedure, which has obtained since 1887, quinine manufactured at the Government cinchona plantations is consigned in the first place to the office of the Superintendent of Cinchona Cultivation in Bengal, at the Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta, whence it is distributed to all purchasers indenting for supplies. It has been decided to transfer, as from October 1, 1911, the duty of distributing the drug to the Juvenile Gaoi, Alipore, and quinine will thenceforward be despatched from the plantation to the Juvenile Gaoi, whence it can be obtained on indent by those requiring it.

PERSONAL.—Dr. John Charlton Brooks, whose sudden death was recorded in our issue of June 10 (index folio 853), was the fifth son of the late Mr. Edward Brooks, of the Indian Subordinate Medical Service, who, on retiring in 1863, opened a dispensary in Elphinstone Street, Camp. Dr. Brooks was one of a family of ten sons and four daughters. He passed the Bombay Entrance examination in 1878 and was sent to the Grant Medical College, Bombay. On passing out creditably from his college he returned to Karachi to join his father in business. On the latter's death in 1886 he took over the business, which he brought to a high pitch of prosperity, enabling him to educate and make provision for the younger portion of the family. He was a devoted worker for the Methodist Church, and provided the building for the Soldiers' Institute in connection with this Church. Dr. Brooks, like his father before him, was among the oldest C. & D. subscribers in India.

OUR GERMAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

The Number of Pharmacists is steadily decreasing in Germany, as is evident from the university statistics of the past years. In 1906 there were in all 1,767 students of pharmacy, in 1910 1,147, while during the present year the number has fallen to 916. The number of medical students is on the increase, the figures for the same years being 6,683, 10,682, and 11,927 respectively.

Alsace-Lorraine Chamber of Pharmacy.—A Bill which comes into force in April 1913, providing for the formation of a Chamber of Pharmacy, has been approved by the Pharmaceutical Council of Alsace-Lorraine. The Chamber's sphere of activity will embrace professional interests and the supply of medicines, and acting as advisor to the Government on pharmaceutical matters. The duty of providing for necessitous pharmacists will fall to the charge of the Chamber, which will be given honorary judiciary powers in regard to professional offences, etc. The punishments which the Chamber will have the authority to inflict after due warning are loss of the pharmaceutical franchise and fines, varying in value up to m.3,000 (150*l.*) in the case of pharmacy proprietors, and up to m.500 (25*l.*) in the case of assistants. Members of the Chamber are elected from among the pharmacists of the province.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Dr. Julius W. Baird, of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, is dead. Dr. Baird was fifty-two years old, and had been Professor of Analytic and Organic Chemistry at the College since 1886 and Dean since 1895. Previously he had been successively on the scientific staffs of Michigan and Lehigh Universities.

Saccharin Prohibition.—The Federal authorities have temporarily suspended the order prohibiting the use of saccharin in food. Until January next its use may be continued providing the presence of saccharin is plainly declared on the label. The reason given for this is that time is required for examining the question and, if necessary, to review the opinion rendered by the Referee Board.

Coronation Luncheon.—The New York evening papers of June 23 gave reports of a luncheon held in the Lawyers' Club by the Pilgrims that day, when Mr. W. Butler Duncan was in the chair. Among those present was Mr. Samuel W. Fairchild, who also attended a special Thanksgiving Service in Trinity Church in the afternoon, when some of Sir Frederick Bridge's Coronation music was played. A Coronation dinner was held in the evening at the Hotel Plaza, Mr. William Gardiner, the British Vice-Consul, presiding over a company of about two hundred.

A Post-graduate Course.—The food and drug authorities of the State of Kentucky are planning to conduct in August a ten-days' course for the benefit of the pharmacists of the State. Some of the technicalities of the recent food and drug laws have puzzled pharmacists, and in the labelling of products chemists have shown themselves at fault. The Kentucky authorities now propose that their lecturers shall go over the whole field and make things perfectly clear. Chemists from some of the manufacturing laboratories and prominent pharmacists will be among the lecturers. Particular attention will be given to the problems connected with the preparation, storage, and handling of various pharmaceutical products.

Restricting Dispensing.—Reference was made in the *C. & D.* (April 15 and 22) to the crusade made by the "New York World" against the New York druggists. As a climax to its efforts that journal is now endeavouring to secure the enactment of a law which would prove very embarrassing to both physicians and pharmacists. It would compel every prescription to bear the name and professional address of the physician, and it would prevent the chemist from dispensing this prescription unless he knew or satisfied himself that the physician was actually in practice at the address given, and unless he knew furthermore that the physician was duly licensed as such. Then, too, the prescription itself would have to be copied on the label of the bottle, a thing which no physician would tolerate for an instant. Already the doctors of New York State are up in arms against this measure and are determined to fight it to the last ditch. They do not want their patients to know what they are taking in the first place, and in the second place they do not want the frequent repetition of prescriptions made so easy.

Pharmacy in Hungary.

The Hungarian Curriculum.—A reform of the Hungarian pharmacist's curriculum is now in the air, and in order to obtain first-hand information of the views of those competent to utter an opinion on this weighty subject the Hungarian Minister of Education, Count János Zichy, recently invited a number of professors of the universities, representatives of the different pharmaceutical corporations, as well as of the assistants' organisation, to attend a conference. The points to be discussed dealt with higher preliminary education requirements, the present apprenticeship system, changes in the university course, and time to be spent as assistant after obtaining the State diploma before being allowed to own a business. As regards the first question, it is interesting to note that with the sole exception of the Dean of the Medical Faculty of the University of Kolozsvár, all were in favour of an increased standard of preliminary education. The Dean, however, rejected this proposal on the grounds that practical considerations should outweigh the ideal in this case; the aim should be, he said, to give the pharmacist a thorough practical training and not overburden him with theoretical knowledge. The apprenticeship question gave rise to an interesting debate. Only one member present expressed the opinion that apprenticeship is now an obsolete institution, which worked well in former days when pharmacists still made their own preparations and worked in the laboratory.

The New Curriculum.—The Minister of Education has since the meeting published the draft of the new curriculum. It contains some interesting points, foremost among which are the provisions for obtaining the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy. Before taking an apprentice a pharmacist must obtain the Minister's permission, and the right may be withdrawn if it is proved that the pharmacist has not sufficiently supervised the apprentice's instruction. Further, not more apprentices than assistants may be kept in any pharmacy, and in the absence of an assistant only one apprentice will be allowed. Provisions in regard to the medical examination of the apprentice, his school education and character, are included, and during the two years of apprenticeship his duties are regulated and an effort made to ensure that he is properly instructed by his employer. Apprenticeship is closed by an examination, which will take place at Budapest and Kolozsvár, the two Hungarian university towns. The subjects of the examination will be pharmaceutical nomenclature, dispensing, pharmaceutical legislation, and book-keeping. It will be oral and practical. Fee, 2*l.* 5*s.* The successful candidate will then have to spend three years as assistant in Hungarian pharmacies, two years of which may be done before or after university study. The course of study at the university lasts two years, the first being in the philosophical or natural sciences faculty, and the second in the medical faculty. The first year's subjects will be physics, zoology, mineralogy, experimental chemistry, practical physics, experimental chemistry, botany, practical chemistry, and practical botany. In the second year, analytical chemistry, pharmacognosy, hygiene and analysis of foodstuffs, pharmaceutical technique, practical chemical analysis, practical analysis of foodstuffs, organic chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, and pharmaceutical legislation. An oral examination will be held at the end of each year's course. At the end of the university course the first finishing examination will be held. It will be practical and theoretical in the subjects of the curriculum. If successful in not more than two trials of this examination the candidate is required to undergo the concluding examination at the end of his assistantship. This consists of half an hour's oral examination in practical pharmacy, and if successful the candidate receives the diploma of Master of Pharmacy. The total charge for all university examinations will amount to 8*l.* 7*s.* To obtain the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy a Master of Pharmacy will be required to continue his university study for two years more, and during this time he will have to prepare a thesis dealing with pharmaceutical chemistry, hygiene, bacteriology, or the analysis of foodstuffs. One hundred copies of the printed thesis must be presented to the dean of the faculty. If it is accepted he will be allowed to present himself for the oral examination on his thesis and two other subjects. The fee for the degree will be 8*l.* 15*s.* The inclusion of zoology in the curriculum and the importance accorded to the analysis of foodstuffs are of interest; the latter points the way to a remunerative sideline open to the Hungarian pharmacist, while the possibility of obtaining the degree of doctor will do much towards raising the dignity of the profession, which even in "protected" countries has of late years suffered considerably in consequence of various features common to all countries.

LEGAL REPORTS.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

VIBRATOR MASSAGE-MACHINES.

The action brought by Mr. John E. Garrett against Mr. Gerald Joseph Macaura was settled before Mr. Justice Joyce in the Chancery Division on July 19. When the case was previously before the Court on June 28 (reported in the *C. & D.*, July 1) it was stated that the plaintiff, who carries on business at 96 Southwark Street as the manufacturer and vendor of a hand-driven instrument for mechanical massage known as the Veedee Vibrator, complained that the defendant, who is the proprietor of an instrument called the Pulsoco, had infringed his copyright in a circular entitled "Only Perfect Blood Circulator, the Veedee, and Nerve Toner." The allegation was denied by the defendant. Mr. Younger, K.C., now stated that the parties had come to an agreement on the footing that the proceedings should be stayed and each side pay its own costs.

ACTION ON RESTRICTIVE COVENANT.

In the Chancery Division on July 18 and 19, Mr. Justice Parker had before him an action by Mr. John Alfred Shelton, surgeon-dentist and mechanical dentist, of Pinchbeck Street, Spalding, and various towns in Lincoln and Cambridge, against Mr. Joseph Eades, mechanical dentist, of King's Lynn, Norfolk. Plaintiff sought an injunction restraining the defendant from carrying on the business of mechanical dentist either in partnership or as master, assistant, or otherwise, within a radius of twenty miles from High Bridge, Spalding, in alleged breach of a restrictive covenant in an apprenticeship deed. Mr. Romer, K.C., and Mr. Luxmore appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Grant, K.C., and Mr. Owen Thompson for the defendant.

Mr. Romer explained that defendant became a pupil of the plaintiff when the former was fourteen years of age, the deed of apprenticeship, which was for five years, being executed by plaintiff and the father of the defendant in September 1902. Defendant left plaintiff's service with the consent of the latter a month before the apprenticeship expired, and in the following year he set up business at King's Lynn, which was outside the radius. Defendant's mother lived at Spalding (his father had died), and he was in the habit of spending his week-ends there. It was complained that he saw patients at his mother's house, took impressions of their mouths there, made the plates at King's Lynn and fitted them at his mother's house.

Plaintiff gave evidence in support of Mr. Romer's statement, and Mr. Romer, in reply to his Lordship, said it would appear from the evidence of the plaintiff that a man was not a mechanical dentist unless he made the teeth, and he did not think he could prove that the defendant made the teeth within the prohibited area. Whereupon his Lordship remarked that he did not see how on the plaintiff's evidence he could hold that the defendant was carrying on the business of a mechanical dentist in the prohibited area. Accordingly he dismissed the action, with costs.

FUSED SILICA APPARATUS.

In the Chancery Division on July 17, Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady commenced the trial of an action by the Thermal Syndicate, Ltd., Neptune Road, Wallsend-on-Tyne, against Silicaware, Ltd., of Upper Thames Street, London, claiming an injunction to restrain the defendants from infringing letters patent for improvements in working fused silica. Mr. A. G. Walter, K.C., and Mr. A. B. Shaw appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Bousfield, K.C., and Mr. Colefax for the defendants.

After the plaintiffs' case had been opened by Mr. Walter evidence for them was given by Mr. Dugald Clarke, C.E., who was in the witness-box on Monday and Tuesday. He was followed by Dr. J. F. Bottomley, one of the inventors of the letters patent and manager of the plaintiff company, and by Dr. Cumming Michie, engaged in experimental work in the plaintiffs' laboratory. Mr. Bousfield then opened the defendants' case, calling as witnesses Mr. Otto

Hallmann, secretary of the defendant company, and Mr. Schuen. The hearing is still proceeding.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

GREGORY'S POWDER.

At North London Police Court, before Mr. Hedderwick on July 14, T. Rawlings and Frank Perrett, trading as Williams & Peters, chemists, Fortess Road, Kentish Town, were summoned under Section 6 of the 1875 Act for selling at 5 Campdale Road, Tufnell Park, Gregory's powder which was certified by Dr. Frank L. Teed, the public analyst, to contain 67 per cent. of magnesium carbonate. Mr. A. M. Bramall appeared on behalf of the Islington Borough Council, who prosecuted, and Mr. Kirby (Neve, Beck & Kirby) was for the defence.

Mr. Bramall explained that magnesium carbonate costs 10d. per lb., and magnesia required by the B.P. 2s. per lb. He understood that his friend intended to plead guilty.

Mr. Kirby said that was so. He submitted, however, that the offence was purely technical. According to the British Pharmacopœia the dose was the same for both these salts, so that they were for practical purposes the same thing.

Mr. Hedderwick: Then why admit that you are in fault?

Mr. Kirby said he did so for this reason: the question had already been fought out at Clerkenwell Police Court, and there, after a long hearing, Mr. Bros came to the conclusion that so long as Gregory's powder was asked for it must be supplied according to the prescription of Dr. Gregory as published in the Pharmacopœia. Mr. Bros, however, imposed the nominal fine of 1s. Mr. Kirby also called attention to a formula for "Improved Gregory's Powder" in the British Pharmaceutical Codex, carbonate being used in it, and this, he pointed out, has the authority of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain!

Mr. Hedderwick: It might be said that a man was not prejudiced if he got a better article than that for which he asks.

Mr. Kirby: I do not urge the point, because I feel if the whole of the arguments were put before you again you would not go back from Mr. Bros's decision. What I do say is that this is a very technical offence.

Mr. Hedderwick: What concerns me most is that this is the second offence.

Mr. Kirby: I wish to make it quite clear that my clients have not been summoned before. It was another firm altogether.

Mr. Hedderwick: But all the chemists' journals would print the case in blazing type. That should act as a warning to your clients.

Mr. Kirby: The case was reported, but a chemist can hardly be expected to read every word in his trade-paper. Here is this week's issue of one of the chemists' papers—it is quite a volume.

Mr. Bramall said that Mr. Bros imposed the fine of 1s. because it was the first case of the kind.

Mr. Hedderwick fined the defendants 5*l.*, with 1*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* costs.

Before Mr. d'Eyncourt at Clerkenwell Police Court on July 19, John Holding, chemist, 169 Hemingford Road, was summoned under Section 6 of the 1875 Act for selling Gregory's powder containing 29 per cent. of magnesium carbonate. Mr. Roberts, solicitor, represented the Islington Borough Council, and Mr. Kirby (Messrs. Neve, Beck & Kirby, solicitors to the Chemists' Defence Association) appeared for the defence.

Mr. Roberts having explained the nature of the offence, John Chandler proved the purchase, and Inspector Burrell proved sending the sample to the analyst, and produced his report. This was the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Roberts submitted the B.P. as the authority.

The Magistrate remarked that the only case of which he recollected where the point arose as to whether or not the B.P. is to be regarded as absolute, was one where liniment of soap was in question. This was taken to the High Court, which held that defendant was entitled to call evidence on the point as to whether the Pharmacopœia is absolute or not. Following this, he heard twenty witnesses on one side and twenty-five on the other, the case lasting several days. He came to the conclusion that the purchaser was prejudiced.

Mr. Roberts thought Mr. Kirby would admit that the B.P. is authoritative and absolute.

Mr. Kirby said he did not agree with Mr. Roberts as to the effect of the Pharmacopœia. It had been held in the case mentioned, as well as in another, that the Pharmacopœia is *prima facie* evidence of what the article ought to be, but it is not absolute. His Honour would not be called upon to decide whether the standard in this instance was absolute for Gregory's powder. Mr. Holding's case was that carbonate was used in error, and not with the intention of maintaining that the carbonate might be lawfully used for Gregory's powder. He would call the evidence of a doctor to show that in point of fact the public are not getting an inferior article which contained carbonate of magnesia, although oxide was the ingredient mentioned in the Pharmacopœia. The error in question was committed by an assistant. In view of Mr. Holding's good record for thirty-four years, he asked that there should be no conviction, but that his client be merely asked to pay the costs.

Mr. Holding gave evidence in support of this statement, and Mr. Kirby pointed out that the difference of price of powder containing oxide was only a farthing an ounce, and he did not think a chemist with a good record for thirty-four years would risk it for such a small amount.

The Magistrate remarked that chemists made profits of 50, 100, and 150 per cent. on those small amounts.

Mr. Holding replied that 33 per cent. was nearer the mark.

Mr. Kirby: You don't get West End prices in Islington. Dr. W. G. Stone then deposed that carbonate of magnesia is more universally used in prescriptions than the oxide.

The Magistrate said that in this case there did not appear to be a very great prejudice to the customer. There was no doubt, according to the defence, that defendant intended to have the powder made according to the Pharmacopœia. He imposed a purely nominal penalty of 1s., with 12s. 6d. costs.

BANKRUPTCY REPORT.

Re Paul Winter, 69 and 70 Mark Lane, and 12 Thavies Inn, London, E.C., Produce Agent.—The statement of affairs shows liabilities 1,191l. 9s. 6d., and fully secured creditors 778l., with assets 8l. The creditors include: W. Lemox (148l.); W. H. Tompsett & Co. (33l.); Paul Winter & Co., Ltd. (384l.); St. George's College, Weybridge (239l.).

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

Robertson, James, 89, Ablewell Street, Walsall, Chemist and Druggist.—Trustee: A. B. Higgs, National Provincial Chambers, Park Street, Walsall. Dated, July 11; filed, July 17. Secured creditors, 18l.; liabilities unsecured, 881l.; estimated net assets, 444l. Among the creditors are: Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd. (19l.); Francis Newbery & Sons, Ltd. (14l.); T. F. Bristow & Co., Ltd. (13l.); Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham (36l.); S. Thornley, Ltd., Birmingham (24l.); Wyleys, Ltd., Coventry (30l.); Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Oldbury (15l.).

Whaler, William Bingley, 2 Franklin Road and 29 Unity Grove, Harrogate, Drug-store Proprietor.—Trustee: G. C. Veale, Princes Street, Harrogate, C.A. Dated, July 13; filed, July 15. Liabilities unsecured, 778l.; estimated net assets, 245l. The creditors include: S. Smith & Co., Ltd. (15l.); Burge, Warren & Ridgley (11l.); Wyleys, Ltd., Coventry (13l.); F. V. Butterfield, Harrogate (236l.); G. T. A. Atkinson (179l.); Taylor's Drug Co., Leeds (30l.); Blyton, Astley & Co., Manchester (10l.); J. Quilliam & Co., Manchester (14l.); Raimes & Co., York (17l.).

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

BISCHOF, R. R., and JAMIESON, A. G., Paper Street, London, E.C., merchants and importers of gelatin, gums, and essential oils, under the style of R. Bischof & Co.

DOWNING, J., and ANDREW, C. W., East Finchley, chemists, under the style of Andrew & Co.

TAYLOR, M. R., and ANDERSON, W. J., Helston, Cornwall, physicians, under the style of Taylor & Anderson.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

BROCKLESBY, DAVID, Grimsby Road, Near Cleethorpes, chemist and druggist.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

PURE CARBON CHEMICAL CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 5,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of carbonisers of wood and recoverers of by-products therefrom, manufacturers of charcoal, manufacturing chemists, chemical engineers, etc.

NEW Selters SPRING (U.K. AND COLONIES) CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire rights over and turn to account the sources of supply of mineral and other waters and salts, etc. G. Bostock is the first secretary. R.O., 21 Ironmonger Lane, E.C.

GRAY'S DRUG-STORES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalers, oil and colour men, etc. The first subscribers are: Mrs. C. E. Gray, 55 Lower Addiscombe Road, East Croydon; and W. L. Armstrong, 55 Lower Addiscombe Road, East Croydon, draper.

CAMRON MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, druggists, manufacturers of agricultural specialities, toilet and counter adjuncts, patent medicines and photographic chemicals, etc. The first director is A. G. Paterson, Liscaud. R.O., 26 North John Street, Liverpool.

ZEDEX MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,500l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on by Henry and Louie King at 94 Church Road, Hove, as the "Zedex Manufacturing Co.," and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists and druggists, mineral-water, soap, and oil manufacturers, etc. The first subscribers are the above-named.

HERALD'S PILLS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical and other preparations, etc. The first subscribers are: H. Perry, Leytonstone, cashier; W. H. Butterfield, 17 New Road, Crouch End, N., manager; and G. C. Baldock, Bow, clerk. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors.

BREATHING APPLIANCES CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 150l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in an appliance known as the "Albar," for affording ease or facility in breathing, and to adopt an agreement with the Rev. A. A. Barratt, W. E. P. Broomfield, and W. Will, who are the first subscribers and directors. R.O., 148 Fleet Street, E.C.

Company News.

PARK CHEMICAL CO., LTD.—Meeting of creditors at Grosvenor Hotel, Manchester, on July 26, at 4 p.m.

ABBEY EFFERVESCENT SALT CO., LTD.—Report of liquidator (Mr. E. Pope) at meeting to be held at 4 St. Mary Axe, London, E.C., on August 18.

STUART & CO., CASH CHEMISTS, LTD.—A notice of the appointment of S. Cole, 9 and 10 Pancras Lane, E.C., as receiver and/or manager, on July 8, 1911, has been filed at Somerset House.

HENRY LAMPOUGH, LTD., AND REDUCED.—A petition for confirming a resolution reducing the capital of this company from 100,000l. to 58,589l. has been directed to be heard in the High Court of Justice before Mr. Justice Warrington on July 29. Solicitors: Thos. Eggar & Co., Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

SCOTTISH CHEMICAL CO., LTD.—At an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders held at Greenock on July 8, it was resolved that as the company cannot, by reason of its liabilities, continue its business it should be wound up voluntarily. Mr. J. M. Kerr, C.A., 43 Wellington Street, Greenock, was appointed liquidator.

CHEMIST (to his stout wife): Don't come in just this minute, I am about to sell six bottles of fat-reducing mixture.

ST. IVES CONSOLIDATED MINES.—At the meeting in London of the shareholders on July 6 the Chairman, in the course of his speech, said that radium and uranium had been sold and paid for to the amount of 10,000*l.*, while contracts have been made for forward delivery amounting to 4,300*l.* Radium of the value of 10,000*l.* is at present in course of manufacture, and, in addition, the stock of radium, uranium, and pitch-blende is valued at 17,000*l.* He referred to the exhibit made by the company at the Soirée of the Royal Society in May. The directors are bringing forward a scheme for a radium spa and institute, with a view to utilising the radioactive water of the Trenwith Mine.

BIRTH.

GODSON.—At 52 Lincoln Street, Old Basford, on July 15, the wife of George F. Godson, pharmacist, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BEALL—KIRKE.—At St. Julian's Church, Binniworth, Lincs, on July 6, S. Percy Beall, elder son of Mr. Samuel S. Beall, chemist, 25 Sidney Street, Cambridge, to Hannah, fifth daughter of the late Mr. John R. Kirke, of Grimsby.

GENGE—KING.—At Park Road Wesleyan Church, Southend, Herbert Edwin Genge, son of the Rev. J. Wesley Genge, to Ethel, eldest daughter of Alderman W. R. King, J.P. (Typke & King, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.).

SNELL—HANNA.—At the New Jerusalem Church, Accrington, on July 13, by the Rev. J. Rendell, James Stanley Snell, chemist, Burnley Road, Accrington, and Church, to "Molly" Hanna, of Accrington.

THOMSON—FORBES.—At Mathers' Hotel, Dundee, on July 11, by the Rev. Hugh D. Morton, Henry J. Thomson, M.A. (Oxon.), St. Andrews (son of Mr. John H. Thomson, chemist, Lochee), to Catherine, daughter of Mr. Peter Forbes, Lochee.

WHELOM—MARRIS.—At the Priory Church, Worksop, on July 12, George William Herbert Whelon, eldest son of Mr. Chas. Whelon, of Hadley, Caterham Valley, to Charlotte Maria, only daughter of Mr. T. Marris, chemist and druggist, Sparker Hill, Worksop.

DEATHS.

BRIGHAM.—At Pocklington, on July 13, suddenly, Mr. George Brigham, chemist and druggist, Market Place, Pocklington, Yorks, aged forty-seven. Mr. Brigham had not been in good health for some time. He leaves a widow, but no children.

GRAESSER.—On July 15, Mr. Robert Ferdinand Graesser, of Argoed Hall, Llangollen, chemical manufacturer, aged sixty-five. The late Mr. R.

Graesser died suddenly in his office at Acrefair, near Ruabon, while engaged with his secretary. He was born at Obermosel, near Zweckau, Saxony, and educated at Mosel, and later at the Gewerbe-Academie, Chemnitz where he passed with honours. He came to England in 1863, first working in Professor Grace Calvert's laboratory in Manchester, and subsequently he became manager of Messrs. Calvert's works. At that period the firm manufactured carbolic acid of 28° only. Mr. Graesser was, however, instrumental in making crystals up to 34° to 35°, and on his representations carbolic acid of this purity was included in the British Phar-

macopœia of 1885, the melting-point being afterwards raised to 40° in the 1898 edition. In 1867 he commenced business at Ruabon, and founded there the chemical works bearing his name. In course of time he developed one of the most successful businesses in North Wales. He became one of the leading makers of carbolic acid, his speciality being the pure crystals in detached and ice form, and in this connection he was well known throughout the wholesale drug-trade, while his occasional visits to 'Change brought him into personal touch with his London clients. He was one of the originators thirty years ago of the Wrexham Lager Beer Co., Ltd., another prosperous concern, of which he was governing director at the time of his death. He was a J.P. for Denbighshire, and in this capacity he attended the Investiture of the Prince of Wales at Carnarvon, and subsequently gave a fête in honour of the occasion at his seat at Llangollen on the day previous to his death. Mr. Graesser was a man of considerable wealth, and was esteemed highly throughout the district, his death now being greatly lamented. He leaves a widow, five sons, and one daughter. Mr. Norman Graesser, his youngest son, studied chemistry at Leipzig University, and having been associated with his father in the business, will continue to carry it on.

HUNT.—At Milverton, Somerset, on July 12, Mr. Charles Hunt, Ph.C., for many years manager for Messrs. Savory & Moore, Chapel Street, Belgrave Square, London, aged seventy-one.

KIRTLAN.—At Brookside House, Wilpshire, recently, Mr. Samuel Kirtlan, chemist and druggist, aged forty-seven. Mr. Kirtlan was formerly in business at Blackburn.

ROBERTSON.—At Edenfield, Cupar-Fife, on July 14, Jane, wife of Mr. W. G. Robertson, chemist and druggist.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. JAMES CAIRNCROSS, 9 Balmoral Crescent, Glasgow, of the firm of Lorimer & Moyes, druggists' sundriesmen, who died on May 10, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at 1,191*l.*

MR. WILLIAM HENRY DEAN, Lindley, Huddersfield, Yorks, wholesale druggist, who died on May 5, left estate of the gross value of 9,618*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, of which the net personalty has been sworn at 8,857*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*

MR. WILLIAM WALTERS, of the Crumlin Shop, Pontypool Road, Crumlin (Mon.), dealer in patent medicines, etc., who died on June 3 last, left estate of the gross value of 3,537*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, of which the net personalty has been sworn at 1,641*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*

MR. GEORGE POTTS, Knaresborough, chemist and druggist, of 1 Westgate, Cleckheaton, Yorks, who died on May 9, left estate valued at 957*l.* 3*s.* gross. Probate of his will has been granted to his three sons, one of whom is Mr. George Henry Potts, of the above address, chemist.

BUSINESS KNOWLEDGE is essential to everyone connected with the retail drug-trade. It helps to turn examination knowledge into money. A great aid to getting business knowledge is our book entitled "Opening a Pharmacy," published at 2*s.* 6*d.* (by post from 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., 2*s.* 9*d.*). It may be obtained from most wholesale houses at the published price.

SULPHUR IN FRANCE.—The British Consul at Marseilles reports that the Franco-American competition for the supply of the French market has become very brisk. The great refinery started by the Americans at Marseilles at first imported Sicilian sulphur. This was gradually dropped, and now they are refining Louisiana sulphur on a large scale. They succeeded in securing the assimilation of Louisiana sulphur to Sicilian sulphur, if under 98 per cent. of purity. Marseilles refiners sent a mission to America, and, though considerably hampered in their proceedings and negotiations, succeeded in getting control of extensive sulphur deposits where the sulphur is to be economically extracted in a liquid state by steam, under great pressure, and refined in America for import to Marseilles. This "carrying of the war into the enemy's country" has given the Marseilles refiners a lead in supplying the enormous demand of the French vine-growers. The imports of coarse sulphur rose to 58,567 tons in 1910 from 44,274 tons during 1909; refined sulphur from 110 to 627 tons.



MR. R. F. GRAESSER.
[Photo Elliott & Fry.]

to 35°, and on his representations carbolic acid of this purity was included in the British Phar-

SUMMER OUTINGS.

Society of Chemical Industry.

THE annual meeting of this Society at Sheffield concluded on Friday, July 14, with a tour through Derbyshire, and a smoking-concert held at the Grand Hotel, Sheffield, in the evening. The tour included a visit to Chatsworth, the residence of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, where the Leyden jars and other apparatus used by Cavendish in 1781



DR. TURNER.



MR. EVANS.

were inspected. At the luncheon afterwards, Mr. Walter F. Reid, the President, in proposing the health of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, spoke of Cavendish's achievements. The toast was acknowledged by Dr. Wrench on behalf of the Duke. The doctor mentioned that he remembered the days of the Crimea, when they had no chloroform, and he realised what a valuable aid it had been to the profession of surgery. Before the company separated the President also expressed thanks to the members of the local committee, mentioning the services which had been so willingly rendered by the joint Hon. Secretaries, Mr. John Evans, Ph.C., F.I.C., and Dr. W. E. S. Turner. The vote of thanks was acknowledged by Mr. Walter Tyzack, and the tour by motor-car was then resumed, Haddon being next visited. The return journey was by way of Owlbar to Sheffield. Mr. B. E. R. Newlands presided at the smoking-concert, being supported by Mr. Reid and Dr. Rudolph Messel, the new President.

"Tria Juncta in Uno."

THE combined outing of the Thames Valley, Western, and Croydon Pharmacists' Association has become a flourishing hardy annual, some 110 members and their friends leaving Kingston on the launch *Balmoral* for Chertsey on July 13. Many of the party from a distance lunched before starting at the Thames Valley Café, the headquarters of the Thames Valley Association, where special arrangements had been made. Glorious weather favoured the trip to Chertsey, where an excellent meat-tea was served at Taylor's Restaurant, looking on the river. During tea-time a vote was taken in regard to having a whole day's outing next year on the river, *via* Reading, Henley, and Windsor. The result showed an overwhelming majority in favour of making a day of it. After the loyal toast, Mr. Harvey proposed "The Ladies." Mr. R. A. Robinson, J.P., replying on their behalf. Mr. Harvey then proposed the toast of the energetic Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Higgs, J.P., who, he said, had made a bed of roses for the company that day, even to bringing a bottle of sal volatile and other necessities in case of need. Mr. H. Paget-Matthews (Croydon) and Mr. Browne (Western) also spoke in a similar strain. Mr. Higgs having replied, the party dispersed till time for the boat to return to Kingston, which was reached at 9 p.m. promptly, the day being voted one of the most enjoyable that had been spent on these trips. Mrs. Alfred Higgs, Mrs. Bartle, and Mr. Leonard Higgs did admirable service in catering for the enjoyment of the party. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. Procter, Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Sayers, Mr. and Mrs. Bunker, Mr. and Mrs. Shircliff,

Messrs. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P., Parrott, Booth, H. Peake, Lester, Martin, Williams, Toyne, Loxley, and Dickinson. The accompanying photograph of the party was taken at Sunbury Lock by Messrs. Eastman & Sons, Maidenhead.

At Aberystwyth.

THE staff of Messrs. Raybould, Whitehouse & Co., Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Reform Works, Dudley, visited Aberystwyth on July 15, the occasion being their annual outing. The visit of the King and Queen to the town on this day made the holiday more interesting. A photograph of the staff was taken in the Castle grounds. The party arrived back in Dudley at 3 A.M.

After Oxygen.

MANY members of the West Ham Association of Pharmacists paid a visit to the works of the British Oxygen Co., Ltd., Westminster, London, S.W., on July 13. Under the guidance of Mr. Webster experiments with liquid air were witnessed, while the testing of cylinders and their filling with oxygen were followed with keen interest. The use of the acetylene-oxygen blowpipe in cutting steel bars was also demonstrated. At the conclusion of the tour of inspection Mr. A. H. Cleland (the President) thanked the firm on behalf of the members.

A Country Ramble.

THE staff of Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., made an innovation in regard to their annual outing, which this year took the form of a cross-country ramble, starting from Epsom Downs, across Walton Downs to the Cock Inn at Headley. Here luncheon was served, and short speeches made by Mr. Arthur Howard, chairman; Mr. H. G. Stacey, managing director of the company; and Messrs. J. Williams and W. G. Wilson on behalf of the staff. Afterwards the party crossed Headley Heath, and found tea awaiting them at the farm on Box Hill, whence, descending, they entrained from Box Hill Station, Dorking, for London.

At Port Sunlight.

THE members of the Salford Pharmacists' Association visited Port Sunlight on July 12 for their annual picnic, on the kind invitation of Messrs. Lever Bros., Ltd., and the Vinolia Co., Ltd. The party began their tour of inspection of Port Sunlight shortly after 3 p.m. under the guidance of Mr. Alex. Paul and Mr. Booth. The well-equipped offices and laboratories were viewed first, then the cardboard-box making department and the printing department. The huge soap-boiling vats caused much wonderment, as did the subsequent rapid treatment of their saponaceous products. Among other departments shown were those for soap-packing, wood-box making, Vinolia department, and Vim. Tea was served afterwards, through the kind hospitality of the firm, at the "Bridge Inn" in Sunlight Village. Mr. Hulme Lever presided over this pleasant function, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to see the guests of the afternoon. On the motion of Mr.



The gentlemen standing on the edge of the steamer are (right to left) Messrs. F. W. Sayers, R. F. Clarke, H. R. Procter, R. A. Robinson, L. Higgs, and A. Higgs.

Cargill (President), a vote of thanks was proposed to Messrs. Lever Bros., Ltd., for their hospitality. Dinner was partaken later in the evening in Liverpool, the party arriving home about 10 p.m. after a most enjoyable day's outing.

P. D. & Co. at the Seaside.

ON July 15 the employés of Parke, Davis & Co., Beak Street, London, W., spent a very enjoyable holiday at Bournemouth. Two special trains conveyed the party, one from Hounslow and the other from Waterloo, and upwards of 500 took advantage of the excursion. After reaching Bournemouth the excursionists split up into parties, some patronising the steamer trips to the Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Swanage, some going to Poole or to Christchurch, and others chose the beach or the shade of the famous pine-trees. In the afternoon the company met in St. Peter's Hall, where tea was served. After tea, Mr. Everitt moved a vote of thanks to the firm for their generosity in providing the outing. This was seconded by Mr. Bowden. Mr. Brown, Superintendent of the Laboratories, acknowledged the vote, and proposed a vote of thanks to the committee, which was seconded by Mr. Maben. Mr. Scaton, of the chemical laboratory, then made a few remarks, in which he wished every success to Miss Saunders, who was leaving for Canada. After tea the company strolled along the beach till train-time. London was reached by the first special train at about 10.20 P.M., the other special going direct to Hounslow.

A Chemists' Picnic.

INVESTITURE DAY (July 13) was declared a special Bank Holiday for Wales, and a party of members of the Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association and their friends, numbering about fifty, took advantage of the circumstances to have a whole-day picnic to Symonds Yat. The train journey was through the charming scenery of the Severn and Wye Valleys. On reaching their destination luncheon was served at the Symonds Yat Hotel, with the President (Mr. Leo



Top Row: Mrs. Pitt, W. R. Williams (Hon. Secretary), D. Thomas, Mrs. Mackintosh, Mrs. Benjamin, J. Seaton, A. Hagon, W. H. Thomas, C. Thomas, Mrs. Seaton, Mrs. Thomas, H. Martin, A. S. Johnson, O. Jenkins-Buckland, H. Furnivall, H. C. Jenkins, F. Lea, J. B. Thomas, H. F. Davies.
Second Row: Miss Abernethy, Mrs. Allen, E. Williams, W. J. Allen, J. L. Jones, Miss James, J. Reynolds, J. B. Benjamin, Miss Hagon, J. D. Jenkins, Mrs. Richards, P. D. Richards, R. Davies.
Front Row: Miss Benjamin, J. A. Jones, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Jones, L. Joseph (President), Mrs. Poole, E. Poole (Vice-President), Mrs. Evans, A. J. W. Evans.

Joseph) in the chair. After the usual loyal toast, that of "The Prince of Wales" was accorded musical honours, including "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau," rendered by Messrs. J. D. Jenkins and J. Reynolds. The party afterwards took boats up the River Wye to the neighbouring village of Whitechurch, also ascending the Yat, from which a view of five counties is obtainable. On returning to the hotel the more energetic members indulged in a game of skittles before tea. After partaking of this refreshment Mr. H. J. Gilliett photographed the party, with the exception of several who had to catch early trains. The return journey was commenced about eight o'clock, after a most enjoyable day favoured with beautiful weather.

"DISEASES AND REMEDIES."—The fourth edition of this useful book for chemists has recently been published by the C. & D. It is a concise survey of the most modern methods of medicine, telling the nature of ailments and describing the methods of treatment. The fourth edition has been carefully revised by a general medical practitioner, and certain parts of the book have been entirely rewritten. It is published at 3s. (by post 3s. 3d.), and can be obtained from the C. & D. offices in London or Australia and from the wholesale and sundries houses.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Examinations in London.

THE Board of Examiners for England and Wales had their final meeting at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on July 13, and approved of the results as under.

MAJOR EXAMINATION.

Twenty-seven candidates were examined; nine failed, and the following eighteen were certified for registration as pharmaceutical chemists:

Barrett, William F.; Hornsey	Macalpine, Ellen B.; Finchley
Brindle, Harry; Bolton	Meek, Herbert Owen; Shipley
Copeland, John; Cape Town	Patterson, S. T.; Barnard
Edginton, William J.; Netley	Castle
Abbey	Pike, Ellen B.; Regent's Park
Gillett, Francis H.; London	Quincey, Henry; Seaford
Gordon, Sarah E. W.; Hampstead	Ramsden, Wilfred S.; Manchester
Heaton, Arthur R.; Gt. Missenden	Sanderson, Henry; York
Hewish, Arthur R.; Hanwell	Wassall, Mary; Kidderminster
Lewis, Thomas; Bridgend	Worters, Trevor; Colchester

MINOR EXAMINATION.

One hundred and eighty-three candidates were examined; ninety failed, and the following ninety-three were certified for registration as chemists and druggists:

Aked, Wm. Reginald; Bradford	Matthews, Leonard; Leytonstone
Andrewartha, Albert E.; Redruth	Maynard, Wilfred F.; N. Brixton
Barrs, Percy; Notting Hill	Milton, Arthur Clement; Exeter
Bayley, John Wesley; Brighton	Montgomery, John; Stornoway
Bedford, Edmund H.; Leeds	Moorhouse, John A.; Huddersfield
Blatt, Horace; Kingsland	Munt, James B.; Haverfordwest
Bodsworth, Harry; Chester	Napier, William C. H.; Portsmouth
Bolton, Muriel; Hull	Nuttall, John J.; Ashton-under-Lyne
Bryant, James Wm.; Brighton	Nuttall, Wm. Harold; Manchester
Callow, Herbert J.; Horley	Oldland, Rupert W.; Westcliff-on-Sea
Cashmore, Frank Guy; Brighton	Ost, Frances Amy; Exeter
Chappell, William; Pontefract	Owen, William; Llanrug
Claremont, Henrietta E.; Southsea	Page, Hilda W.; Brondesbury Park
Clarke, Geo. Arthur; Blackpool	Parsons, Dora May; Sevenoaks
Corden, Sidney W.; Pulborough	Phelps, Wilfrid M.; Swindon
Coward, Frank L.; Bristol	Phillips, Herbert A.; Wolverhampton
Cox, John William; Luton	Phillips, Philip J.; Cardiff
Craven, Ernest; Bradford	Polglase, Wm. Mason; Millom
Cutler, Archibald F.; Norwich	Pullen, A. Norman D.; Newbury
Cuzner, Harold Roy; Wolverton	Quadling, Frederick H.; Diss
Daniel, Hubert F.; Nottingham	Rees, David M. B.; Barry Docks
Dawson, Thomas Brown; Clapham	Ralph, Samuel; Penrith
Dyson, Frank; Barrow-in-Furness	Richards, Henry; Tipton
Edwards, Richard T.; Oswestry	Roberts, Annie Ethel; Gravesend
Evers, E. Wm.; Newcastle-on-Tyne	Sage, Geo. Edward; Lostwithiel
Finney, Florence H.; Brierley Hill	Salter, Percy H.; Shrewsbury
Foss, Sydney E.; Broadway	Savager, Edward J.; Southampton
Fowler, Francis R.; Reading	Sherry, Archie R. P.; Exeter
Gerry, Horace L.; Plymouth	Slater, Arthur S.; Forest Hill
Gibbs, John, jun.; Upton-on-Severn	Small, James; Breehin
Gill, James C.; St. Anne's-on-the-Sea	Snowball, W. Robt.; Spenny-moor
Gower, John; Burry Port	Stevens, Wm. Arthur; Stockwell
Gray, Herbert C.; Oxford	Stroud, Sydney H.; Leicester
Hall, Frank; Lincoln	Taylor, Robert W.; Rochdale
Hall, Harry Thos.; Birmingham	Thomas, Wm. H.; Haverfordwest
Harris, Frank V. G.; Paignton	Timson, Samuel George; Fulham
Hayes, Jas. Roberts; King's Lynn	Tufnell, Alice Jane; Marylebone
Hirst, Stanley; Mossley	Walton, Arthur Cyril; Notting-ham
Hobkirk, John George; Durfan	Warwick, Wm. N.; Larne
Hornsby, Montague R.; Folkestone	White, Rud. Dymoke; Portsmouth
Howell, David G.; Skewen	Will, Claude S. Watson; Bath
Howells, Idris; Nantymoel	Yates, Vincent Brooks; Swinton
Ikpen, Henry J. W.; Bournemouth	Yeomans, M. W.; Desborough
Jessop, Harold V.; Walsall	
Jones, David Pugh; Ealing	
Jones, J. W. Foulkes; Rhyl	
Knott, Arthur; Ashton-under-Lyne	
Lisney, Stanley John; Redhill	
Lloyd, David H. L.; Dulwich	
Massey, Warren L. S.; Market Drayton	

[At the Edinburgh examinations, reported last week, five Major candidates were examined, and all passed; while of eighty-four Minor candidates thirty-six failed and forty-eight passed. These results are unusually good and will

go some way to relieve the present stringency in the supply of qualified assistants. They also indicate that the present *sine curricula* conditions are not so black as they have been painted.—EDITOR C. & D.]

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee met on July 12 at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C. There were present: Mr. W. A. H. Naylor (in the chair), Mr. J. C. Umney (Treasurer), and Messrs. F. W. Gamble, E. F. Harrison, E. M. Holmes, D. Lloyd Howard, F. Ransom, R. Wright, Ed. White, and E. Saville Peck and H. Finnemore (Hon. Gen. Secs.). The draft of the annual report was presented and approved, and the treasurer made a statement that the finances of the Conference were in a satisfactory condition.

Mr. Peck reported the proceedings of the Joint Standing Committee of the British Medical Association and the British Pharmaceutical Conference. On May 31 the Conference members of the Committee sent out a circular to the local associations, asking for support upon the following points:

(1) Having regard to the public safety, dispensing under the Government scheme should be done through the channels provided by the Pharmacy Acts, and that provision should be made in the Bill itself for the carrying out of the Chancellor's expressed intention that this work should be done by pharmacists.

(2) The remuneration for dispensing and supply of drugs be arranged with (a) the Insurance Commissioners, or (b) the local Health Committees, on a tariff system, and not on a capitation basis.

(3) There be a free choice to the insured persons of those pharmacists who are willing to go on the panel to supply medicine.

(4) Pharmacists should be directly represented upon the Advisory Committee and the local Health Committees.

Replies were received from a large proportion of the local associations assuring the Conference of their support, and the Joint Standing Committee on June 15 passed unanimously resolutions affirming the principles involved in these points. The Council of the British Medical Association, which met on July 5, did not, however, ratify these resolutions, but passed the following five resolutions:

(1) That this Council affirms the principle that the dispensing under the Government scheme should be done through the channels provided by the Pharmacy Acts, and that provision should be made in the National Insurance Bill itself for the carrying out of the expressed intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that this work should be done by pharmacists or medical practitioners.

(2) That this Council further favours the constitution of lists of pharmacists under the jurisdiction of the local Health Committees, and is of opinion that all registered pharmacists should be entitled to be placed upon the lists.

(3) That this Council agrees to endeavour to secure free choice on the part of the insured of pharmacists from the lists.

(4) That this Council considers that the remuneration for dispensing and supply of drugs should be arranged with the local Health Committees on a scale system, and not on a capitation basis.

(5) That this Council considers that every effort should be made to secure for pharmacists in Ireland the same professional and financial privileges and rights as are accorded to them in Great Britain.

Regret was expressed that the resolutions passed by the Council of the B.M.A. were not identical with those adopted by the Joint Standing Committee.

The following new members were elected: W. Browne, London; P. Cheetham, London; E. Corfield, Birmingham; J. H. Bishop, Tunbridge Wells; D. A. Evans, Bath; S. Hogg, Belfast; J. E. Howard, Fareham; W. E. Hume, Newcastle-on-Tyne; E. Hall, Luton; F. Gall, Landport; R. C. Johnstone, Grimsby; S. Rogers, Southsea; J. W. Royle, London; A. B. Stocks, Manchester; D. J. Williams, Bath; J. H. Webb, Luton.

THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.

The Portsmouth Local Committee turned up in large force on July 19 at a meeting held at the Camera Club.

Mr. T. A. White presided. Others present were Dr. F. Beddow, Messrs. Bell, Cruse, Barlow and Postlethwaite; Pollard and Barford (Ryde); Mrs. T. A. White (President Ladies' Committee), Mesdames Postlethwaite (Vice-President), Atterbury, Baker, Brewis, Gall, Rogers, Miss Cruse, and Miss Hooper (Secretary).

"Final arrangements" formed the agenda. Mr. Barlow introduced his draft of the details, especially regarding instructions to the stewards. These were approved, and at the close of his speech he was accorded a hearty ovation. Messrs. Pollard and Barford have been of great assistance in the arrangements for Island coaches, and, with the help of Messrs. Dunning (Ventnor) and Millidge (Newport), will act as guides at Carisbrooke Castle next Thursday.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.

The Ladies' Committee met at Mrs. T. O. Barlow's, 2 Palmerston Road, Southsea, on July 13. Mrs. T. A. White presided, and other ladies present were Miss Cruse, Mesdames Atterbury, Barlow, Baker, Bown, Brewis, Gall, Postlethwaite, and Miss Hooper (Hon. Secretary). Mrs. Brewis read a letter from an officer on board H.M. Yacht *Victoria and Albert*, which foreshadowed the possibility of a visit being arranged to the yacht as an alternative to the Gun-wharf for some of the party. At the close of the business Mrs. Barlow entertained the visitors to tea.

TO RECOGNISE STEWARDS.

The badge shown in the sketch will be worn by the members of the Local Committee at Portsmouth. Stewards will meet the principal trains that arrive at Portsmouth on July 24, and will render any help that visitors may require. The badge is about an inch across, and has a cream-coloured ground with monogram and the Portsmouth crest in blue and gold.

GOLFING AT PORTSMOUTH.

By the courtesy of the members of the Lee-on-the-Solent and Rowlands Castle Golf Clubs, Conference visitors are made honorary members for the week. Lee is a sporting, 18-hole course, beautifully situated and within easy reach of Portsmouth. Those wishing to play golf should communicate with Mr. E. H. Smith, 47 High Street, Gosport, who has charge of the golfing arrangements.

THE PROGRAMME

of the meeting to be held at Portsmouth in the week commencing July 24 is now definitely settled. The first function of the Conference will be the reception at the Town Hall on Monday evening, and thereafter follows a round of events—scientific and social—which will satisfy the most voracious seeker after variety. The Local Committee is working with a will, and the omens are good both for the success of the Conference and the continuance of fine weather.

COLLEGE NOTES.

THE LONDON COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY, PHARMACY, AND BOTANY.—Owing to the renumbering of Clapham Road, the address of the College is now 361 Clapham Road, London, S.W., instead of 323 as formerly. The premises are the same.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—At the College examinations held last month, on the termination of the Summer Term, the following awards were made: *Silver Medal* (for highest aggregate marks), Mr. A. F. Cutler; *Bronze Medals*: Chemistry, Mr. L. Morgan; Pharmacy, Mr. W. Lander; Botany, Mr. A. F. Cutler; *Materia Medica*, Mr. W. S. Rogers. "*Attenborough*" Prize (for dispensing), Mr. W. Lander. *Certificates* were awarded as follows: Practical Chemistry, Mr. J. G. Hobkirk, Mr. C. S. Watson Will, Mr. L. Morgan, Mr. W. Lander, Miss S. F. Edmond; Theoretical Chemistry, Mr. L. Morgan, Mr. S. Relph; Theory of Pharmacy, Mr. S. Relph, Mr. W. S. Rogers, Mr. T. B. Dawson, Mr. W. Lander; Dispensing, Mr. W. Lander, Mr. A. F. Cutler, Mr. W. A. Combs, Mr. W. A. Stevens, Mr. T. B. Dawson; Botany, Mr. A. F. Cutler; *Materia Medica*, Mr. W. S. Rogers, Mr. S. Relph.



WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

POISON-LAYING.

Lord Clonbrock has given notice that at the Committee stage in the House of Lords of the Protection of Animals Bill he will move the insertion of a new sub-section giving power to occupiers of land in Ireland to lay any poisonous matter thereon provided that they give notice in a conspicuous place and to the nearest police-station.

THE AUTUMN SESSION.

The opinion that an autumn session may, after all, prove to be inevitable, appears to be gaining ground in well-informed Parliamentary circles. The slow progress which is being made with the National Insurance Bill, even with the suspension of the eleven o'clock rule—the only expedient yet adopted—leads to the belief that rather than sit through the whole of August and the greater part of September, the preferable course would be to adjourn early next month and reassemble in the late autumn, for the sole purpose of dealing with Mr. Lloyd George's scheme.

SALES FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES BILL.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords has taken further evidence in regard to this measure. Lord Clinton is the Chairman of the Committee, and the members include the Earl of Leven and Melville, the Earl of Chichester, Lord Saye and Sele, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, and Lord Saltoun. Mr. August F. A. Zimmermann, representing Bastol, Ltd., was one of the witnesses after Dr. Voelcker. In the course of his evidence he told the Committee that his company take wood and by catalytic action convert it into a feeding-stuff containing 25 per cent. of sugar and additional carbohydrates. In reply to the Chairman Mr. Zimmermann stated that chemical analysts are not feeding-experts, and cannot by chemical experiments determine the digestibility or otherwise of carbohydrates described as soluble or insoluble. He thought the word "indigestible" should be taken out of the Bill; the public analyst could use the words "soluble" and "insoluble." The witness pointed out that Dr. Voelcker in his evidence had stated that by chemical tests he did not know what was indigestible or not. Witness described how bastol is made from the catalytic product, rice-meal, nut-meal, and the like, pointing out that a public analyst had added to his certificate in regard to it, "All this is wood pulp mixed with molasses," which was absolutely wrong. He suggested that there should be a court of reference under the Act. Mr. Alexander Cross, ex-M.P. for Camlachie, was also examined in regard to the sale of fertilisers. He pleaded for less iniquitous methods of procedure against delinquents, also dealt with the sale of seeds, such as Chilean clover, and he was questioned by the Chairman on the digestibility or otherwise of foods. The Chairman asked him if he would agree to the expression, "digestible as determined by chemical analysis," but witness considered that that could not be done.

Shops Bill.

THE Shops Bill was again before Grand Committee on Tuesday, July 18, the sitting being occupied by the consideration of various new clauses. One of these was a proviso that nothing in the Act should prevent proceedings from being instituted against any person under the Sunday Observance Act, 1677, but it was ruled out of order, and will probably be brought up again on Report. A proposal to empower local authorities at holiday resorts to suspend or modify the obligations of the Act in regard to the hours of employment and overtime of assistants was defeated after discussion by 32 votes to 19. Mr. Churchill submitted a new clause making special provision for persons employed in the sale of refreshments. A lengthy debate ensued (Mr. Glyn-Jones being among those who disapproved of the clause as being inadequate), after which the clause was read a second time by 33 votes to 14.

On Thursday the Grand Committee added a new licensing clause to the Bill after a considerable number of amendments had been suggested. One of the most important of those added to the clause was by Mr. Charles Roberts, which gives assistants one whole Sunday as a holiday in three.

The Grand Committee sat late to complete the Bill, which has now to be reported to the whole House.

Mr. R. J. Seddon, who has been keenly watching the progress of the Bill, expressed the view on Tuesday that the Bill will pass this session. An immense amount of time has already been expended, both in the Home Office and also in Grand Committee, and it would be a matter of widespread regret if all this labour should be thrown away through the exigencies of the Parliamentary situation.

Aromatic Extract of Cascara Sagrada.

By R. C. Cowley, F.C.S.

I DO not greatly favour methods of making galenical preparations which are not based on a sound knowledge of the proximate constituents of the crude drug. Without this knowledge a galenical preparation must partake of the character which some Americans speak of as a "shot-gun" formula. Unfortunately quite a number of the formulæ included in the British Pharmacopœia and others belong to the "shot-gun" variety. Preparations of cascara sagrada are, to a large extent, of this class. That cascara sagrada contains glucosides is now commonly conceded, and that the activity of cascara sagrada preparations is materially increased by age is a well-known fact, and one that is commonly utilised by those who aim at preparing active preparations of the drug.

The physiological activity of glucoside-containing drugs does not depend always on the glucosides they contain, but on the products of hydrolysis of the glucosides. This is a possible explanation of the increased activity of cascara sagrada by ageing the bark. In a paper read before the British Pharmaceutical Conference by White and Robinson, in 1902, the writers found that an aqueous solution from cascara sagrada was acid. This is true; furthermore the acidity is increased by age. This leads one to believe that the acidity is not entirely due to fermentative changes during the process of drying. It does not always follow that enzymes foreign to a drug will produce hydrolysis in the glucoside present, but in many instances it has been proved that decomposition of the glucoside will take place under the influence of a foreign enzyme. In the case of cascara sagrada I found that by digesting the powdered bark with water and a small proportion of emulsin, then percolating with water until the drug was exhausted, the product required a much larger proportion of half-normal ammonia to produce neutralisation than when a similar quantity of the same drug was exhausted by water alone. Correctly or incorrectly, I assumed this substantiated my assumption that a fermentable glucoside is present in cascara sagrada, and that activity of the drug is at least in part due to the products of its decomposition. On evaporating the solution I found White and Robinson's statement, that, after boiling, the liquid again became acid, was correct. Furthermore, when alkalinity was maintained during evaporation, the extract was free from the bitterness of cascara sagrada, and it still maintained its activity. Of course the use of an enzyme in making a fluid extract would be absurd. To decompose the glucoside, I boiled the drug with the acid and water previous to percolation. The method I finally adopted for preparing an aromatic cascara extract is as follows:

Cascara sagrada (No. 20 powder) ...	20 oz.	100.00
Diluted sulphuric acid... ..	1 fl. oz.	5.00
Alcohol (90-per-cent.)	4 fl. oz.	20.00
Oil of coriander... ..	20 minims	0.21
Oil of orange	20 minims	0.21
Spirit of chloroform	80 minims	0.84
Gluside (soluble)	13 grains	0.15
Liquid extract of liquorice	4 fl. oz.	20.00
Solution of ammonia } ...	of each a sufficient quantity	
Distilled water }		

Boil the cascara sagrada with 7½ pints (750) of distilled water and the diluted sulphuric acid for two hours; allow the mixture to stand for twenty-four hours, then pack in a percolator and percolate with distilled water until the cascara bark is exhausted. Neutralise the percolate with solution of ammonia, and evaporate on a water bath to 12 fluid ounces (60), maintaining slight alkalinity throughout the operation by the further addition of solution of ammonia from time to time. Dissolve the oils and gluside in the alcohol, and the spirit of chloroform and the liquid extract of liquorice. Mix this with the concentrated solution of cascara bark, and, if necessary, make up to 20 fluid ounces (100) with distilled water.

The product is very elegant and possesses undoubted activity. In a paper by Dr. Symes, communicated to the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1909, the author stated that he used chloroform water in exhausting the drug for the purpose of avoiding any tendency to fermentation. I have not observed any tendency to fermentation in making aqueous extracts of cascara sagrada in Brisbane. I imagine this tendency would be more apparent in a semi-tropical climate than in England. Possibly, however, the presence of chloroform may have had an action which Dr. Symes did not anticipate. During the past year it has been shown that chloroform has a remarkable action in accelerating the decomposition of cyanogenetic glucosides. I am in a position to verify this statement. It may be that the chloroform increases the velocity of decomposition of the glucoside or glucosides of cascara bark.

Should the activity of cascara, as I suspect, be due to the products of decomposition of a glucoside or glucosides, it is reasonable to suppose that the decomposition by means of diluted sulphuric acid would produce as active a preparation from a fresh bark as from one that has been kept for years.

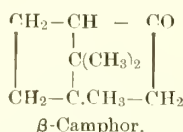
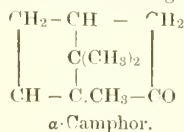
College of Pharmacy.
Brisbane, Queensland.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

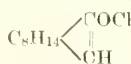
Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

A New Reaction for Strychnine.—Malaquin reports the following new reaction for the detection of strychnine: 1 c.c. of a solution containing 1 per cent. of strychnine is treated with 1 c.c. of strong hydrochloric acid and 1 gram of pure zinc. After two to four minutes the mixture is heated to boiling. After cooling, the liquid is carefully poured on to 2 c.c. of strong sulphuric acid. At the junction of the liquids a rose-red colour appears, which gradually spreads to the whole liquid. Neither boiling nor treatment with sodium sulphite discharges the colour, but potassium thiocyanate, ammonia, and bisulphite of soda completely decolorise it. The reaction will detect 1 part in 100,000 of liquid.

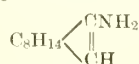
Camphor Chemistry.—Bredt, in a communication from the laboratory of the Technical School of Aachen to the "Chemiker Zeitung" (1911, 766), gives an account of the synthetic preparation of β -camphor, an isomer of ordinary or α -camphor. The two bodies are related to one another, as shown in the following formulæ:



Bornylene carboxylic acid is converted into its acid chloride



which by the action of hydrazine hydrate is converted into the semi-carbazide, which by means of Curtius's reaction is converted into the imine



and this, by heating with acid, becomes β -camphor or, as it is termed, bornylene. Bornylene boils at 213°, and melts at 181°-182° when distilled, or at 184°-185° when regenerated from its semi-carbazone. It forms an oxime melting at 103°-104°.



Postal Address:
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Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."
Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries received since our last issue:

- 108/4. "Brodie's Hair-dye."
- 103/26. "Electroline" Salve.
- 101/9. "Proline" for the hair.
- 103/5. "Litholyst" tooth-paste.
- 108/9. "Darsy's Soap": suppliers.
- 103/17. "Hastings" truss: London agents.
- 103/29. "Special 68" perfume (made in England).
- 103/51. "Rashleigh, Cox & Co., export agents": address.
- 105/25. Name and address of makers of "Fleet" Dupli-cator.
- 106/26. "Ivoirine" (not Ivorine) small-tooth combs: makers.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles can be obtained, and in many cases we have given the actual makers. The information will be repeated to any other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Ammoniated quinine capsules (102/610).
- Antiphlogistine (99/34).
- Anti-rheumatic rings (Indian inquiry) (102/61).
- Bazaar goods (West Indian inquiry) (102/32).
- Cash-tills (for the East) (104/440).
- Drew's Savol (105/37).
- "Eagle" eye-ointment (102/64).
- "Electrozone" (disinfectant and bleach) (102/56).
- Enastin (106/14).
- "Eversafe" hygienic comforter (South African inquiry) (103/8).
- Formaldehyde (104/30).
- French perfumery labels (101/51).
- Glyco-Thymoline (104/441).
- Hagan's "Magnolia Balm" (103/28).
- "Hastings" truss (makers) (103/17).
- Ivorine small tooth-combs (103/62).
- Kuticool (Grollier's) (102/51).
- Lavender-water (special brands) (104/44).
- Lavol (cattle wash) (105/37).
- Mechanical dentistry, teaching (98/72).
- Meteorological charts (100/45).
- Pearl-hardening (103/40).
- Powdered tallow-soap (102/29).
- Prophyllactic tooth-brushes (98/50).
- Pyocyanase (maker) (103/27).
- Regulin (104/54).
- "Rough-on-Rats" (102/20).
- Sterry's plasters (Dutch inquiry) (103/23).
- Tallermann's hot-air apparatus (101/48).
- Tucker's asthma remedy (103/50).
- Ung. hæmorrhoidal (101/74).
- Vegetine pills (104/54).
- Watson's castor-oil pills (97/70).
- Wilson's hygienic lamp (101/58).

APPRECIATIONS.

From a Manufacturing Chemist:

"I have found your information very useful, and I think your Information Department is an excellent institution, for which chemists should be grateful."

From a Provincial Pharmacist:

"I beg to thank you for yours of 7th inst. re makers of poison-bottles (special). We have now placed an order with a firm whom you mentioned, who are making them for us. Again thanking you for your kind assistance, which has helped me over a real and pressing difficulty." (102/1.)

SWISS CHEMICAL PRODUCTS.—In 1910 Switzerland exported drugs, chemicals, colours, fats, and oils to the value of 2,050,500*l.*, against 1,843,400*l.* in 1909. These included pharmaceutical products, calcium carbide, and other chemical products for industrial use, mainly to Germany; aniline and coal-tar colours went to German, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.A. The imports of chemicals, oils, and fats for 1910 amounted in value to 1,854,200*l.*, against 1,809,100*l.* in 1909.

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

The Action

of the British Medical Association with regard to the Insurance Bill has throughout been dictated by considerations of self-interest rather than by public spirit, and, however successful it may prove, the profession will gain by it more credit for astuteness than for those higher qualities for which we have been taught to look in men who practise the healing art. It may be that, *prima facie*, we have no right to expect greater disinterestedness from doctors than from ordinary mortals, but they frequently claim to possess it, and are fond of extolling their devotion to duty and the public weal. Surely, it is inconsistent with this attitude to bind themselves beforehand not to co-operate with Mr. Lloyd George's scheme except on terms acceptable to themselves, and in accordance with the declared policy of the British Medical Association. To the outsider, at any rate, this looks like sheer trade unionism, and the whole opposition of the doctors to the Bill has been on similar lines. They regard the Bill simply as it affects their own pockets, and are apparently dead to all other considerations. No wonder Mr. Lansbury says,

"Hang the Doctors!"

Others besides him are getting "sick of them" in this connection. Not only do they (as far as they are represented by or in the British Medical Association) decline to support our claim to consideration, which is quite as strong as their own, and has been much more reasonably urged, but they are evidently trying to deprive us of the only benefit we can possibly receive under the Bill in exchange for the injury it will do us in other directions. That they are in this attempting to defeat one of the main purposes Mr. Lloyd George had in view in drafting it makes their action the more reprehensible, but strengthens our hands in the fight for our proper place in the scheme. The author of the Bill is in this matter on our side: it was he who designed to separate dispensing from prescribing, and we are but contending for the realisation of his design. That we are doing so in a manner honourably distinguished from that of the British Medical Association should, and doubtless will, be accounted another point in our favour. Meantime, the public may be invited to consider this new evidence of the greed and jealousy of a so-called liberal profession.

The Cape Colony Tariff

of dispensing charges for medicines supplied to friendly societies would, you think, "suit home chemists nicely." I should rather think it would, and don't they wish they may get it! One great omission in the discussions of the insurance proposals is the failure on the part of chemists to attempt any estimate of what would meet the requirements of the situation. Most of us have simply talked "at large," and some of us large at that; but this won't do. Mr. Lloyd George has made it clear that he has a definite amount to give away. If it is not sufficient to meet all the claims which Parliament puts upon it, it may, I presume, be increased; but there are limits to the possibilities, even of the public purse. Such meagre data as have been furnished by some of your contributors indicate that a charge of 3d. per prescription works out at a *per capita* allowance of something like 1s. per friendly society member. We may expect the new beneficiaries to consume at least as much per head as the present members of friendly societies, and if each prescription is to be charged 1s., which is a fair average of the Cape prices, this means a *per capita* figure of 4s. per annum, or about two-thirds of the whole of the sum available under the Bill. And even then there would be "extras" in "proprietary medicines or expensive ingredients." When, therefore, the chemist has got his "bite," there will be precious little left for the doctor; and I fear that if we are to do the work, something a good deal less than the Cape figures will have to be accepted, for the simple reason that on this basis there is not anything like enough money to go round.

Our National Pride

has often been grievously wounded when comparisons have been made between our educational methods and those of Germany, so that it is distinctly soothing to our *amour propre* to be assured, on the authority of Mr. Walter Reid, that the facilities for acquiring chemical knowledge in Great Britain are quite as good as those obtaining in any other country. This assurance is all the more gratifying when we are further told that there is now a much more extensive outlet for the energies of the chemist after he is trained. A few years ago this could not have been asserted with truth, but the figures supplied by Mr. Reid show what advances chemical industry has made in comparison with other industries in the employment of the highly skilled and expensive worker, while the further remarkable statement of the average output per head of those employed indicates very clearly indeed that the present enlightened policy is a paying one. May I echo Mr. Reid's suggestion for the provision of factory libraries? True, our public libraries to-day all contain a sprinkling of technical books, but these are usually hidden away in a huge catalogue where fiction predominates, and a select technical library attached to every factory or warehouse would have a much better chance of being taken advantage of.

Bovine Tuberculosis

must now be definitely regarded as a possible cause of the dreaded human variety of that disease. When the late Dr. Koch declared that there is no connection between the bovine and the human tubercle bacilli, numerous dissenting voices were heard. Such an expression of opinion from an authority like him could not, however, be ignored, and the Government promptly appointed a committee of experts to report on the subject. The final instalment of the report has now appeared, and it has formed the subject of numerous homilies in the newspaper Press, the writers of which are unanimous in their opinion of the gravity of the document. Now that the connection between bovine and human tuberculosis has been conclusively proved, the first thing to be done is to ensure the bacteriological examination of milk, and it is understood that the Local Government Board already have on the stocks a Bill with this object in view.

The Pharmaceutical Interest

of the latest instalment of the Oxford English Dictionary centres in the "terebinth" group of words, and is indeed almost exhausted by it; perhaps no previous double-section has afforded fewer opportunities than this for comment in these columns. With the exception of "terebinth" itself, the only medical plant-names it includes are "tetter-berry," formerly given to white bryony because the plant was thought to produce and to cure tetter, and "tetter-wort," a name for *Chelidonium majus*, due to the fact that this plant, too, was thought to cure tetter; in America the latter name is given to the red puccoon (*Sanguinaria canadensis*). "Terra" appears in several obsolete combinations, as "terra foliata (tartari)" = potassium acetate, and "terra merita" = turmeric. The earliest date for "terra Japonica" (catechu) is 1654; the French *terre du Japon* is, I believe, earlier. "Terra sigillata" is earlier by many years than "terra Lemnia," appearing first in 1598, whereas the latter does not occur in an English writer before 1613. The earlier name is explained by Brookes (1802):

This earth [of Lemnos] is called Terra Sigillata, being formed into small loaves sealed with the grand signior's seal, and thus dispersed over various parts of Europe.

"Test-tube" does not appear until 1846, so modern is the science of chemistry as we know it. There are over eighteen columns of words and combinations of words with the prefix "tetra," many of which are chemical terms, and one at least, "tetrapharmaceutical," is historically interesting to pharmacists; "tetrapharmaceutical unguent" was a famous salve composed of resin, wax, pitch, and bull's fat. The word "telepathy" has completely ousted "telesthesia"; both were first used by Myers (1882). The "terebinth" group, though important, includes little or nothing that is not known to all pharmacists; the history of "terebene" is peculiarly interesting, and should be compared with that of "terpene," the two words having been synonymous.

"SANITAS POWDER" v. SLUGS.

"SANITAS POWDER" rids Garden Beds of Slugs, and is now being well advertised for that purpose.

Mr. W. P. Wright in "The Gardener, Week by Week" says, "The hint I was going to offer about slugs was to scatter 'Sanitas Powder' on the soil amongst the plants. Slugs simply loathe it."

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Editorial Articles.

A Critical Time.

THE National Insurance Bill is making slow progress in the House of Commons, and Clause 14, which is the centre of interest for chemists, will not be reached until next week, probably Tuesday. The most notable thing which has occurred as regards the dispensing of medicines is contained in the letter addressed by Sir Donald MacAlister, President of the General Medical Council, to the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding amendments. The Committee of the Council (for whom Sir Donald wrote) recommends, *inter alia*, that every Health Committee shall, subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, make arrangements with duly qualified pharmacists for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines and surgical requisites to insured persons. This recommendation is quite against the latest policy of the British Medical Association, and cannot fail to be of service when the Chancellor has to decide whether or not he has to go back upon his specific proposal that the supply of medicines under the Bill should be entrusted to chemists, and only in exceptional cases should the doctors who prescribe them also supply. There is no doubt of the fact that a considerable section of the medical profession are opposed to this, but their objections have not been formulated in words, except by Dr. Addison's motion, and it remains to be seen whether or not the British Medical Association include the objections in the terms that they are to decide upon for undertaking the medical benefit work of the Bill. They cannot overlook the General Medical Council's recommendation, which must necessarily have considerable influence with the House of Commons and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. There is no doubt that the question generally is not free from difficulties to the Government and danger to chemists. It is being very carefully considered in all its aspects, including the manner in which payment may be made without increasing the financial responsibilities unduly. We are not without hope that a place for chemists will be found in the Bill, but this depends, first, upon the arrangement which the Chancellor makes with the doctors, and, second, the influence which chemists have with their members of Parliament. A great deal is being done by chemists. We again impress upon them not to stop, and would suggest that the chemists in every constituency should sign such a letter as the following to their representatives in Parliament and send it to them not later than Monday, July 24 :

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

SIR,—We, the undersigned dispensing chemists in your constituency, ask you to support the amendments to this Bill proposed by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., on behalf of all sections of the retail drug-trade. These amendments are being supported by a large number of members irrespective of party, and the principle of them has independently been urged upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer by the General Medical Council, which is the statutory authority in regard to the practice of medicine. Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B., M.D., President of the Council, in a letter to Mr. Lloyd George has recommended an amendment whereby every

Health Committee shall, subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, make arrangements with duly qualified pharmacists for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines and surgical requisites to insured persons. All that we ask is your support to this principle, and we trust that you will see Mr. Glyn-Jones about the matter and help him to secure proper amendments.

We are, etc.

[Names and addresses.]

Chemists might also ask leading members of their M.P.s' committees to back them up by getting them to write to the M.P. at the same time. If any chemists are on such committees, they should sign the letter, and also address their members individually. Liberals who have political influence locally or at headquarters should not hesitate to use it, for every bit of power will be needed in order to get a place for the retail drug-trade in the Bill.

The Opium Situation.

THE information which we have given in our Trade Report this month to the effect that a considerable change was taking place in the opium situation in Turkey as the result of a reduction in the crop estimates, will have prepared our readers for the higher level of prices now ruling. On Tuesday we received a cable from one of our Smyrna correspondents stating that the sales of opium amounted to 30 cases at 22s. per lb. for fair manufacturing quality. This announcement indicates a rise of about 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb. since the beginning of July, and however slow the London opium-buyers (taught by painful experience to place little reliance on news from Turkey) may be to follow the lead of the Smyrna market, it is more than probable that they will now be forced to give some credence. At the moment they cannot be persuaded to pay these high prices named by Smyrna and Constantinople exporters, principally for the reason that they do not believe that the position warrants it, and that when speculators withdraw a reaction will ensue. Such was the case last week, when a relapse of about 1s. per lb. occurred, but it was of short duration, as the latest cables indicate that a recovery has taken place. As regards the new crop which is now being harvested in Asia Minor, it may be said that few anticipated that it would be so small as it now appears likely to turn out. It may be remembered that about the end of May the favourable weather conditions which prevailed led many people to expect that a crop of 5,000 cases might be expected, and, if so, prices might decline several shillings, to, say, between 13s. and 15s. per lb. It would now appear, however, that the severe frosts earlier in the year, particularly in April, did prove to be serious to the autumn sowings. Towards the end of June these reports became more definite, and it is now said that the yield will not be more than from 4,000 to 4,500 cases, which is about half the world's annual consumption of opium. A few weeks may elapse before the truth with regard to the extent of the damage done on the present occasion is known, but in the meantime we have it on good authority that the opium-growers in the Interior have instructed their Smyrna correspondents to raise the prices—in some instances above the parity obtainable in the Smyrna market. In the week ending July 7 a fair business was reported in Smyrna, the total amounting to about 72 cases, of which only eight were new crop. The prices realised ranged from the parity of 21s. to 23s. per lb. for the old and 19s. to 19s. 6d. for the new, which sales were largely to speculators. As yet the United States have not appeared in the market to any extent, and when they do so prices will necessarily be driven up further. One

of the best means of estimating the output of the crop is to watch the arrivals of new opium at Smyrna and Constantinople. These statistics are usually accurate, and they show that on July 7 of this year only 123 cases had been received, compared with 420 cases at the same period of last year. Another factor in the situation is that the morphine yield in the new opium is about 1½ per cent. inferior to the old crop, hence the premium being paid for the latter; in fact, new Salonica opium shows a very low yield this year. The situation in Smyrna is summarised in the following interesting letter from a correspondent:

"In contrast with the unfounded rumours usually circulated in former years as to the damage caused to new crop, it is now contended on trustworthy authority that the recent reports of a similar unfavourable character as regards this year's crop are unfortunately more than justified. It is remarked that the yield in the shape of morphine of the new product leaves much to be desired. Hence a serious prejudice, and the fact that buyers prefer the old quality, for which they are compelled to submit to prices heretofore unknown at this time of the year, while the bulk of the stocks is held by strong and large local interests. Moreover, it is considered a certainty that a still more pronounced advance in prices is to be feared, as stocks are very low, arrivals are much fewer, and the demand, on the other hand, much greater. This opinion is candidly expressed without prejudice, however, and it is doubtless shared by more prominent merchants and experts in the article. Markets in Great Britain and in the United States are, it is argued, nearly cleared of stock, while heavy deliveries of morphine have to be met by the large makers to their respective Governments towards the end of August. It is thus regarded as tolerably certain that such makers, in the necessity of meeting their obligations, will have to pay up to the hilt to cover their needs, as they have refrained from the wise policy of buying, though they had an opportunity to do so, when offers were made of from 300 to 400 cases (basis 12 per cent.) at 40fr. Under present prospects it is predicted by our correspondents that the price of opium will gradually rise within the next two or three months, to give way perhaps towards the end of December to about present values. Beyond this events alone can determine future movements."

Undoubtedly these famine prices will have the effect of reducing business to a minimum until information is more definite in regard to the Turkey crop. It need hardly be said that the market for Persian opium is following the lead given by Turkey to a large extent, but the amount to be produced this year cannot be estimated. There is, however, a moderate quantity on the spot, and for full test up to 18s. 6d. per lb. has been paid, but there are now no sellers below 20s. Since writing the above, we understand that a private telegram has been received to the effect that civil war has broken out at Shiraz, which is one of the leading centres for opium and tragacanth. If this should prove serious it means delay to the harvesting of the Persian crop, making it precarious, especially as the mule-roads from Shiraz to the coast remain in an unsettled condition.

The Dental Referendum.

It will be remembered that at the annual meeting of the British Dental Association last July a resolution was passed approving of a draft Dentists Act Amendment Bill, which, among other things, seeks to prohibit the practice of dentistry by those carrying on business as chemists who are not registered dentists. This Bill has been referred by referendum to the members of the Association. The final result of the referendum is announced in the "British Dental Journal" as follows:

In favour of the resolution ...	685
Against the resolution ...	654

Majority in favour of the resolution ... 31

The total number of votes counted was 1,339, these including ballot-papers from distant parts of the British Empire. The result can hardly be called decisive, and should act

as a warning to the promoters of the Bill. If the dentists themselves are so lukewarm about the merits of the Bill—looking at it from a dentist's point of view one would have expected a different result—it can hardly be supposed that the Legislature representing the laity of the country will display any great enthusiasm for such an unjust measure. The official organ of the British Dental Association states that the result "is perhaps, after all, not altogether unsatisfactory to those who advocated a referendum," a faint praise which augurs very badly for the success of the Bill. The subject is down for debate at the annual meeting in London on August 3.

German Trade with Japan.

The issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" for July 13 contained the text of the new commercial treaty between the German Empire and Japan which was signed at Berlin on June 24 and approved by the Bundesrat on June 28. The treaty is to remain in operation for twelve years, and then for one year after denunciation. Most-favoured-nation treatment is to be reciprocally accorded in respect of various matters, including the carrying on of business by limited liability, insurance, and similar companies (which, if having a legal status in the territory of one of the contracting parties, are to be recognised in the other), and in all matters of trade, navigation, and commerce, except where expressly provided to the contrary. A special Customs Agreement between Germany and Japan has also been signed, conceding lower rates of Customs-duty on goods of German origin imported into Japan and on Japanese goods imported into Germany. Thus salicylic acid, the duty on which was fixed by the new Japanese statutory tariff at yen 11.60 per 100 kin, has been reduced to yen 7.00; quinine, which was fixed at yen 135 per 100 kin, will enter Japan at yen 60.00. Perhaps the most important item which has been altered is artificial indigo (dry), the duty on which has now been "conventionalised," whereas formerly under the old tariff yen 40.00 per 100 kin was payable; alizarine dyes, aniline dyes, and other coal-tar dyes, not otherwise provided for, have also been reduced from yen 7.00 to yen 5.60 per 100 kin. The importance of synthetic indigo to Germany is illustrated by the fact that between 1907 and 1909 the average annual value of the imports into Japan was about 600,000*l.*, but it fell last year to about 320,000*l.* It is admitted that England succeeded in inducing the Japanese Government to make a substantial reduction in the indigo duties in 1894, and that Germany was unable to prevent an advance in the duty on synthetic indigo in 1906, though the duty on natural indigo, chiefly imported from India, remained unchanged. Among the Japanese articles on which Germany has reduced its tariff is vegetable wax, the duty on which has been cut down by half to m.5 per 100 kilos, when in the natural state, while "prepared" vegetable wax is to enter at m.10, as against m.15 per 100 kilos. The duty of m.10 on vegetable isinglass (agar-agar) has now been removed. There are a number of other "concessions" as the result of negotiations, but the above are those of interest to the drug-trade. It is not anticipated that this agreement will in any way be detrimental to British interests. All the goods named are admitted into this country free of duty, while under the most-favoured-nation clause, the reduced duties now agreed upon between Japan and Germany will be applicable to imports into Japan and Germany respectively from the United Kingdom. In other words, the United Kingdom has the advantage of the lower duties secured by the agreement on its exports both to Japan and Germany.

MEDICAL GLEANINGS.

Sulphoform in Skin-diseases.

SULPHOFORM, the sulphide of triphenylstibine, $(C_6H_5)_3SbS_2$, which has been prepared by Kauffmann, is readily decomposed with the separation of sulphur. In the form of an ointment with vaseline it is employed of a strength of from 5 to 20 per cent. in the treatment of skin-diseases, notably seborrhœic alopecia.

Savon d'Afridol.

WHEN mercury perchloride is mixed with soap an insoluble mercury compound results due to the combination with the fatty acids of the soap. Schraucht and Schöller ("Apotheker Zeitung") overcome this difficulty by employing sodium mercurioxy-o-toluate. The soap can be used for disinfecting the hands, and as it is not caustic it can be employed in the treatment of skin-diseases.

Quassia for Thread-worms.

Dr. C. H. Joy, Tamworth, gives a note of warning in the "British Medical Journal" regarding a paragraph in the "British Pharmaceutical Codex" in which infusion of quassia (1 in 20) or liquor quassiae concentratus mixed with an equal quantity of water is recommended to be used as an injection for the thread-worms of children. Dr. Joy states that he employed for a child 5 oz. of concentrated infusion of quassia diluted to 10 oz. with warm water, and in twenty minutes "alarming symptoms of acute alcoholic poisoning supervened and lasted nearly four hours, fortunately followed by complete recovery." The infusion employed contained 23.4 per cent. of 90-per-cent. alcohol, equal to 37 per cent. proof spirit. The high proportion of alcohol which these preparations contain precludes their employment as rectal injections for children.

Nastin Treatment in Leprosy.

Dr. WISE, the Government bacteriologist in British Guiana, in a report presented to Parliament [Cd. 5583] on the nastin treatment of leprosy at the Mahaica Leper Asylum, states that he is unable to confirm the very hopeful conclusions which have been arrived at by Professor Deycke himself. He says that, while some cases undoubtedly got considerably worse during the treatment, the great majority have remained *in statu quo ante*, while a few have improved to such a degree that in three cases the results approximated to a cure. He declares the favourable results to have been so few that longer and wider experience can alone determine whether these cases were instances of natural improvement irrespective of nastin administration, or whether the injections of nastin played an active part in the disappearance of the leprosy deposits. The cases covered by the report number 135, over a period of twenty-two months.

The Digestibility of Cheese.

THE "Therapeutic Gazette" (May 1911) says that it is generally held by the medical profession that cheese is not a particularly digestible article of diet. It calls attention to a recent publication of the Department of Agriculture (U.S.A.), Bulletin 166, in which a study has been made of this subject, the report being given by Doane. Careful investigations were made in regard to the different kinds of cheese and their digestibility by and nutritive value to the human subject. Doane concludes that cheese is a very wholesome food and particularly advantageous to the labouring classes. No kind of meat excepting dried beef, carries such a large proportion of proteid as cheese, and even dried beef contains a much greater percentage of water. Weight for weight, fresh beef has little more than one-half the food-value of cheese in either protein or fat, and this holds true practically of all fresh meats except bacon or fat pork, but their food-value is mostly in fat. Finally, Doane points out that there was an absolute lack of any disturbance of the general health of the persons who used cheese in large quantities in the experiments reported in this bulletin, and furthermore, that those peoples who rely largely upon cheese as an article of diet are noted for athletic attainments and physical endurance.

National Insurance Bill.

THE discussion of Clause 8 was resumed in Committee of the House of Commons on Monday, July 17. Last week the Committee had disposed of the medical benefit sub-clause, and had also disposed of the sanatorium benefit provision, but the sickness benefit, disablement benefit, maternity benefit, and additional benefits remain to be considered, and the whole of Monday's and part of Tuesday's sittings were devoted to these matters. The most important alteration was the increasing of the maternity benefit from 30s. to 3*l*. in the case of married women workers insured under the Act. A good deal of time has been spent upon discussion of the principle as to whether or not sick benefit should be paid in respect to the first three or four days of the illness. The Chancellor has successfully resisted the proposal that the benefit should begin with the illness. On Tuesday he warned the Committee that the attempts to heap up obligations under the Bill have a most serious import. Clause 9, which deals with reduced rates of benefits in certain cases, was also considered and agreed to. On Wednesday Clause 10 was taken up. It deals with arrears of payment by insured persons, and gave rise to much criticism and debate extending over five hours. At one time it looked as if the Government would be defeated on an amendment by Mr. Lees Smith, which had support in all quarters of the House, and the Chancellor made a strong appeal, the result being that the amendment was defeated by a majority of 47 only. The clause as amended was added to the Bill by a majority of 133. Clause 11, which deals specially with Workmen's Compensation Act cases, then occupied the time of the House until Thursday morning.

It is not anticipated that Clause 14 of the Bill will be reached before the early part of next week (wrote our Parliamentary representative on Monday). The new amendments which have been placed on the paper by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, relating to the medical aspect of the Bill, are being considered by the mass meeting of doctors, convened by the British Medical Association, which is to be held at Birmingham on Friday afternoon. The acceptance, or otherwise, of those amendments will determine the future attitude of the medical faculty towards the Bill.

Mr. Charles Bathurst, M.P., who proposes in Clause 14 to add dental to the medical benefits under the Bill, informed our Parliamentary representative that he was acting solely on behalf of the Gloucester Education Committee, who reported that 40 per cent. of the children in the schools were suffering from dental defects, and that the large proportion of their physical ailments were due to these defects. He wished that the Dental Association and other bodies had acted sooner in the matter. He was of opinion that prevention was better than cure, and that the chief cause of sickness—the dental defects—should be dealt with in time and thus prevented.

Mr. Leslie Scott has given notice of an amendment to Clause 14 which provides that every insured person with an income exceeding 104*l*. a year who is entitled to medical benefit can have an equivalent pecuniary allowance towards the expense of medical attendance and medicines, to be arranged by the Insurance Commissioners.

A revolt of some importance is threatened by the Friendly Societies. At a private meeting which was held at Westminster on Tuesday afternoon, it was decided that the intention of the Government not to allow sick pay for the first three days of any illness would have a detrimental effect on the Friendly Societies which might lead to a reconsideration of their desire to become approved societies under the Bill.

APOTHECARIES' ASSISTANTS.

The case of dispensers with the Apothecaries' Society's assistant's certificate has been attracting some attention in Parliament, and Dr. Hillier, M.P., proposes to recognise them by incorporating in Clause 14 the provision:

"and such medicines shall be dispensed by a pharmaceutical chemist, or chemist or druggist, under the Pharmacy Acts, 1852 and 1868, or by a certified assistant to an apothecary under the Apothecaries Act, 1815, or by persons who for

seven years prior to the passing of this Act have been employed as dispensers to medical men."

It is believed that there is a large measure of support in the House for the principle of this amendment, the opinion being held that existing rights which are not at variance with the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts should be recognised.

PETITION TO THE CHANCELLOR.

We are informed by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., that fully a hundred and twenty members of Parliament had up to Tuesday signed the memorial which he has prepared for presentation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in reference to the position of chemists and druggists under the new scheme. These members are drawn from both sides of the House irrespective of parties or politics.

"URGENT AND PERSONAL."

Several thousand chemists in the country received at the end of last week a large envelope with the above inscription. It was from Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool and London, and contained a copy of "The Case for the Pharmacist," with the following covering letter:

DEAR SIR,—A mass meeting of several hundred pharmacists was held in London on Thursday, 6th inst., to support certain amendments to the National Insurance Bill. These amendments will be brought before the House of Commons by Mr. Glyn-Jones, M.P., with a view of getting them accepted by the Government.

It was clearly shown at the meeting that, in order that there should be a reasonable chance of the Government accepting these amendments, it is necessary for every pharmacist to approach his member of Parliament and ask for his support to the same. We would point out the supreme importance to pharmacists of doing this, and are enclosing a pamphlet containing the amendments in question, and explaining the justice of the pharmacists' demands. This pamphlet can then be sent on to your member by you, together with your letter asking him to give these amendments his support when they are brought up by Mr. Glyn-Jones in the House of Commons.

Mr. Glyn-Jones authorises us to state that he would give your member any additional information which he might require.

This Bill is in no sense a party Bill, as it has been accepted by all parties in the House.

We remain, etc.

The Pharmaceutical Society supplied the pamphlets, and Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., did the rest. In a chat with Sir Edward Evans (who is taking a keen personal interest in the Bill) he informed us that the letter and pamphlet were sent only to their own customers, and the company have had many appreciative letters in reply. Hundreds of chemists have intimated that they have written to their M.P.s, sending the pamphlet, which is quite a familiar object in St. Stephen's at present.

PUBLICITY.

The following paragraph has appeared in "The Times" and other newspapers:

The deputation representing chemists, firms, and stores carrying on the business of dispensing chemists, which waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, are carrying on a vigorous campaign among members of Parliament, directed to securing amendments of the provisions in the National Insurance Bill affecting medical benefits. They claim that of the six millions at present insured for medical benefit in Friendly Societies very many are not satisfied with their treatment, and supplement the scanty supply of medicines they obtain from the club doctor by purchasing simple remedies from the chemist; they do not object to the efforts of the Chancellor to provide that in future the present six million club patients shall receive adequate medical treatment, and do not protest against a similar provision being made to include in the scheme a further nine millions who are at present customers of the ordinary chemist or stores, but they desire to guard against the possibility of the establishment of central depôts and dispensaries—subsidised by the State scheme—from which insured persons may be compelled to obtain their medicines under the scheme. The memorial to the Chancellor, which is being extensively signed by members of both sides of the House, asks that the insured may be given a free choice to take his prescription to any shop where medicines may be legally dispensed, and that the charges for such medicines shall be in accordance with a tariff or scale approved by the Health Commissioners.

This is the practice in Germany, and unless a similar course is taken in this country the chemists have much more to fear from the Insurance Bill than the doctors, for it may mean that a great portion of the business at present in the hands of the ordinary or store chemists may be transferred to State-controlled and subsidised dispensaries.

DOCTORS AND CHEMISTS.

Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B., M.D., President of the General Medical Council, has, on behalf of the Committee of that Council, addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer a reply to his letter of June 13 (see *C. & D.*, June 24, index folio 910). Sir Donald sets forth the amendments which the Committee deem desirable to be made in order to give effect to the Council's suggestions regarding, especially, medical aid, voluntary hospitals, and the supply of drugs. As to the last subject, Sir Donald says:

On the assumption that the administration of "medical benefit" is to be in the hands of the local Health Committees, the purpose of the Council under this heading would be fulfilled if the first sentence of Clause 14 (1) were altered so as to read as follows:

"Every Committee shall also, subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioners, make arrangements with duly qualified pharmacists for the supply of proper and sufficient drugs and medicines and surgical requisites to insured persons."

Seeing that injuries, accidents, and surgical disorders are as likely to disable the insured as affections requiring treatment by drugs alone, it seems obvious that provision should be made for the supply of the ordinary materials that are necessary in such cases. By entrusting the supply and dispensing of medicines, etc., to qualified pharmacists, who are subject to the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts, the maintenance of official standards of quality and purity would be ensured.

In regard to Ireland, Sir Donald suggests that "the medical service of the insured should be distinguished from the medical service under the Poor Law." The Chancellor, in acknowledging the letter, has stated that the suggestions "shall receive careful consideration."

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons on Monday, Mr. Pointer asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether duly qualified herbal practitioners will be allowed to practise under the terms of the National Insurance Bill, in cases where the insured person prefers their services to those of the ordinary medical practitioner.—The Chancellor replied that no practitioner who has one or other of the qualifications enumerated in connection with the Medical Acts would be ruled out by the terms of the Bill.

The Chancellor informed Mr. Sandys on Monday that the Insurance Commissioners would be an executive, and not a representative body. He understood that one of their number at least would be a medical man. The medical profession would certainly be represented on the Advisory Committee. The local Health Committee must each include two fully qualified medical men.

Mr. Fred Hall asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday, July 17, if medical men can prove that they will suffer financial loss owing to the operation of the State insurance scheme he will be prepared to take the necessary steps to compensate them.—The Chancellor replied that he would consider any amendment to this effect if put on the paper in due course.

Mr. Worthington-Evans asked the Chancellor on Monday whether he can give an estimate of the number of persons who would be entitled, under the National Insurance Bill, to medical, sanatorium, and maternity benefits, but not entitled to sickness and disablement pay in the fifteenth year after the commencement of the Act; and what provisions exist in the Bill for dealing with these persons.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that no such estimate is at present available. As to the provision made for such persons they will in general be in receipt of means in excess of 31*l.* 10*s.*, or will be already in receipt of old-age pensions, or will become entitled to sickness and disablement benefit on attaining the age of sixteen.

Mr. Cooper asked whether in the case of an insured person requiring and being ordered nourishing diet, such as milk, beef-tea, wine, etc., or simple appliances such as bandages and trusses, arrangements will be made for their supply; and whether they will be a proper charge on the

National Insurance Fund.—The Chancellor replied that simple appliances can be supplied as part of the medical benefit, but articles of diet cannot. In this respect the Bill will conform to the ordinary practice of Friendly Societies.

Sir Henry Kimber is to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday whether homœopathic doctors will be equally eligible under the Bill, and whether a registered practitioner, homœopathic or otherwise, will be able to dispense his own medicines if he desire to do so.

INTERVIEWS.

Deputations of the Chesterfield chemists have interviewed Mr. J. Haslam, M.P., and Mr. W. E. Harvey, M.P., and at a meeting it was reported that the replies of those gentlemen were favourable to the views of the trade. All present signed a memorial, to be sent to Messrs. Haslam and Harvey, asking them to support the amendments on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society. At the same meeting a Chemists' Association was formed for Chesterfield and district, with Mr. J. H. Toplis as Secretary and Mr. Sidney Greaves as Treasurer. Fourteen members joined.

Mr. W. Maskew, Ph.C., Clacton-on-Sea, has been in correspondence with Mr. H. K. Newton, the local M.P., and has also had an opportunity of interviewing him. Mr. Newton held out little hope of chemists being able to get a scale system of payment, and he thinks that pharmacists will have only the small *per capita* amount allotted to them. Mr. Maskew gathered from his interview that generally Mr. Newton is on the side of chemists, but he is somewhat doubtful as to the ultimate fate of the Bill owing to the political situation.

Several further deputations from local chemists and druggists have been received by members of the House of Commons during the week on the subject of the Bill. On Monday Sir Clement Kinloch Cooke, M.P., Mr. Shirley Benn, M.P., and Mr. Astor, M.P., had interviews with chemists and druggists from Plymouth and Stonehouse on the subject of Clause 14 of the Bill. The principal point urged was the probable competition between the suggested State-established dispensaries and the local chemists. The members for Plymouth and Devonport agreed that State-aided competition would be exceedingly unfair, and promised to give close attention to the representations upon the points which had been brought before them.

NOTES.

"Chemists and Dispensers" is the subject of correspondence in the "Morning Leader." It turns on the position of apothecaries' assistants, and reveals chiefly ignorance as to the legal status of such assistants.

Mr. T. J. Prichard, chemist and druggist, Llangefni, Anglesey, has received a reply from Mr. Ellis G. Griffith, M.P., in which Mr. Griffith states that he understands that negotiations are on foot with the view of endeavouring to meet the points raised by the Pharmaceutical Society.

King George, before leaving University College, Bangor, on July 14, handed the Insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order to Mr. John Rowland, Private Secretary to Mr. Lloyd George, who has been the intermediary between the pharmacists and the Chancellor of the Exchequer in regard to the National Insurance Bill matters.

Mr. L. R. Davies, 374 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London, S.E., wrote to Sir Edward F. Coates, Bart., the member for Lewisham, and has received two sympathetic letters from him, in the second of which Sir Edward says: "To show my sympathy with the pharmacists, I have signed the memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, urging upon him the desirability of amending the National Insurance Bill, where necessary, so as to include provisions whereby your profession will be protected."

The Liverpool Committee of Retail Pharmacists has made fair progress since the meeting with local M.P.s in the House of Commons on July 5. The Right Hon. F. E. Smith, K.C., M.P., has promised to support Mr. Glyn-Jones's amendments, and Mr. Bonar Law is also interesting himself in the matter. A committee meeting was held on Monday afternoon, when it was decided to send Mr. Last and Mr. Moreton Parry to London to do what they can to help Mr. Glyn-Jones. Mr. Parry is now present in the lobby of the House of Commons daily.

The Exeter Chamber of Commerce has issued a final memorandum on the Bill, in the course of which Mr. Glyn-Jones's amendments to Clauses 1 to 16 are approved, but the Chamber is unable to support his amendments to Clauses 42 and 43 providing for the inclusion of registered medical

practitioners and pharmacists on the Advisory Committee and the local Health Committees. The Chamber is strongly of opinion, however, that one or more persons having an expert knowledge of medicine and pharmacy should be included on the Board of Commissioners.

The Exeter Association of Pharmacists wrote on July 14 to Mr. H. E. Duke, K.C., M.P., calling his attention to Dr. Addison's amendment to Clause 14 (2), which, as mentioned in the *C. & D.* last week, would have the effect of permitting doctors to prescribe and dispense under the Bill, and thus keep away much business from chemists. The object of the letter was to point out to Mr. Duke that Dr. Addison's amendment, if carried, would "militate against the efficiency of the treatment of insured persons" and bring great hardship upon pharmacists. The letter was signed by Mr. F. W. Vinden, Secretary.

Mr. Alvan Wyatt, Secretary of the Bedford Chemists' Association, of the Tavistock Pharmacy, Bedford, addressed letters to Mr. F. Kellaway, M.P. for Bedford, and to Mr. L. S. Amery, and has received letters from them in reply. Mr. Kellaway says that he is in general agreement with the points raised by Mr. Wyatt, which were those submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by the pharmaceutical deputation. Mr. Amery says: "It seems reasonable that beneficiaries should have a free hand in the choice of pharmacists and that they should be sure of having their drugs dispensed by duly qualified individuals." Both gentlemen have been put into touch with Mr. Glyn-Jones.

Mr. James Guiler, M.P.S.I., Secretary of the committee of the pharmacists of Belfast and district, which is taking steps to amend the proposals of the State Insurance Bill in so far as they affect pharmaceutical chemists, has received acknowledgments of the committee's resolutions from a number of the Ulster members of Parliament. Sir John Lonsdale, Bart., Secretary of the Irish Unionist Party, has promised to bring the matter before the party, and has been provided with reports of the interview which the Pharmaceutical Council had with Sir Henry Robinson, of the Irish Local Government Board, on the subject. Mr. R. J. McMorrie, M.P., Lord Mayor of Belfast, has written that he is not in favour of the proposals relating to chemists at all; while Mr. Robert Thompson, M.P., thinks that the proposed amendments should be brought under the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

A propos of Dr. Addison's amendment of Clause 14 (2), Mr. A. H. Tuffin, of Barnsbury Street, N., sends us a cutting from "Everybody's Weekly" of what the editor calls an "ably written and interesting" letter replying to the question "Should doctors dispense?" The writer is apparently a layman, and answers in the negative. He tells of a medical friend of his own who ran a dispensary in a London suburb, and one evening he found that all the doctor's patients got medicine out of the same bottle! The doctor's explanation was that most of the patients had nothing the matter with them, so he gave them a slight aperient. "If I told them (added the doctor) there was nothing the matter with them, and advised them to get a box of pills, they would say I was a rotten doctor, and go to some other man." The editor adds: "I have heard several similar stories from provincial medical men of my own acquaintance, nor do I really blame the doctors who treat some of their patients in this way. The physician who is perfectly frank, and tells his patients the real truth about their imaginary ailments, is never likely to have a profitable practice; and, after all, even a doctor isn't in the business for his health."

MEETINGS OF CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATIONS.

These meetings have been called at the suggestion of the Pharmaceutical Society, with the view to backing up the resolutions of the Mass Meeting of Chemists in London on July 6, and helping the Parliamentary Secretary in his efforts to get the Bill amended.

Birkenhead.—On July 13 the Birkenhead and Wirral Association of Pharmacists met and unanimously endorsed the Society's action. As the Association had already sent a resolution to the local M.P., accompanied by a petition signed by every chemist in the district, and a deputation had waited on the members, it was felt that nothing further could be done beyond making a final appeal, asking for their support to the official amendments.

Derby.—The members of the Derby and Derbyshire Association met at the Bell Hotel on the evening of July 14. It was a representative gathering. Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., Labour member of Parliament for Derby, was down to give his views on the Bill. He explained that he was not out for votes, but to lay his own views, as a representative of

Derby in Parliament, before his constituents. He went on to say that he had a peculiar interest in anything relating to the chemist, because he started out in life very young as a messenger for a chemist. Mr. Thomas was outspoken to a degree, and generally was in favour of the chemists' case. He was heartily thanked.

Dewsbury.—A meeting of the local Pharmacists' Association was held on July 12, the President (Councillor Barker, of Heckmondwike) in the chair. Messrs. H. Jones, J. Heaton, R. Broadhead, H. Mortimer, R. Gledhill, G. N. Gutteridge, G. Butterfield, J. Day, S. N. Pickard, J. Rhodes, and the Secretary (Mr. Reginald J. H. Day) were also present. Mr. Pickard presented a report of the Mass Meeting, and it was decided to send the Society's pamphlet to the local M.P.s, asking them to support the suggested amendments.

Doncaster.—A meeting of the Doncaster Association of Pharmacists was held at the Albany Hotel on Wednesday, July 12, Mr. M. H. Stiles in the chair. There were also present Messrs. H. W. Shaw, F. Brooke, J. C. Marr, F. W. Playford, P. J. Norwood (Wath-on-Dearn), and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Harry W. Stiles). After a full discussion the Mass Meeting resolution was approved, and it was decided to place the matter before the local M.P.

Dundee.—At a meeting of the Pharmacists' Association on July 13, Mr. Stephen (President) in the chair, the President reported on the deputation to the Scottish M.P.s. Mr. Stephen further emphasised the points for which pharmacists must fight, and finally a resolution approving of the Pharmaceutical Society's amendments was passed.

Glamorgan.—Mr. Daniel Arnott (Pontypridd) presided over a meeting of the East Glamorgan Chemists' Association, when the Society's resolutions were unanimously approved, and it was agreed that the President and Secretary (Messrs. D. Arnott and W. Oswal Davies) should pay a visit to London with the view of interviewing the Parliamentary representative for the constituency (Mr. Clement Edwards, M.P.), so as to lay the position of the trade before him, and to seek his unstinted support to Mr. Glyn-Jones's amendments. Mr. Davies was instructed to draft a memorial to be signed by the trade of the district, and to hand it to Mr. Edwards. Also that Mr. Davies should communicate with the Secretaries of other Welsh chemists' organisations with the view of their also approaching their Parliamentary representatives in the same way. Mr. Davies, in this circular, suggests that one or two chemists from each district should form a combined deputation to Welsh M.P.s.

Great Yarmouth.—Special meetings of the local Association were held on June 30 and July 14 to discuss the National Insurance Bill. A deputation was appointed consisting of the President (Mr. F. J. Woolcock), Mr. Harvey Palmer, and Mr. P. R. Hill, to attend the Mass Meeting on July 6 and to interview Mr. A. Fell, M.P. Mr. Fell promised to support the amendments desired by pharmacists.

Grimsby.—Mr. C. Willson presided over a meeting of the local Association held at Mr. C. H. Ashton's house on Wednesday, July 12. Messrs. H. W. Colley, C. Dewing, T. D. Sneath, E. Sigley, A. Osborne, F. W. Heely, and the Secretary (Mr. Ashton), were also present. It was agreed to support the official amendments, and the thanks of the Association were accorded to Sir George Doughty, M.P., for his sympathetic reception of a deputation from the Association. Sir George had expressed the opinion that the best results would come if the dispensing was left to the pharmacist. It was agreed to send copies of "The Case for the Pharmacists" to the members for Grimsby, Louth, and Brigg, with a covering letter.

Hull.—On Wednesday evening, July 12, the Hull Pharmacists' Association (Mr. R. F. Jones presiding) decided to do what they were asked to in order to secure the support of local M.P.s for Mr. Glyn-Jones's amendments.

London Chemists' Association.—The annual general meeting of this Association was held at St. Bride Institute, London, E.C., on July 13, with Mr. J. C. Pentney in the chair. There was only a fair attendance. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. Wellesley Douglas) in his report commented upon the indifference exhibited by many members and on the poor attendance at meetings. He said the need for activity in local Associations would be greater than ever if the National Insurance Bill became law. Pharmacists would probably get no right of being represented on the Advisory Committees to be set up, but local Associations might do much to advise such committees what remuneration they were to get for dispensing, etc. The Bill promises to change considerably the conditions of pharmacy in this country, but whether the work of dispensing for the poor at low prices and under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts would be very attractive he did not know. The report was adopted. Messrs. Pentney, Truman, Uppill,

Hearle, and Slatford joined in a general discussion of the Insurance Bill, and it was agreed to send a resolution to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging him to amend the Bill so as to secure only to those engaged in the practice of pharmacy under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1908, the right of dispensing and supplying medicines to insured persons, and that the remuneration should be by a scale system. Mr. J. Hearle was elected to the committee. A vote of condolence with Mr. Egge, of Peckham, in his bereavement was unanimously passed. Several other important matters were discussed, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

Middlesbrough.—Mr. Arthur Lee presided over a special meeting of the local Association held on July 13 at the Grand Hotel to consider the National Insurance Bill. The amendments proposed by the Pharmaceutical Society were discussed and unanimously approved of. It was decided to send a signed petition to Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., and Mr. Perry Williams, M.P., asking them to support the amendments. The committee appointed to formulate a scheme for a joint proprietary article presented their report, the discussion of which was postponed.

North Wales.—The Llandudno, Colwyn Bay, and District Pharmacists' Association held a meeting at the North-Western Hotel, Llandudno, on Tuesday afternoon, July 11, Mr. W. H. Roberts in the chair. Miss Hamilton, Messrs. Adamson, Cocker, Gibson, Hannah, Hughes, Rogers Jones, Lloyd, McIntosh, Neill, and Smith were also present. The official resolutions were approved, excepting No. 7, and it was proposed that 104% per annum be substituted for 160%. This was agreed to, and, besides adopting the official suggestions, it was resolved that the President go to London to interview the three members representing the district.

Portsmouth.—At the meeting of the local Association on Thursday evening, July 13, a vote of appreciation of the Pharmaceutical Society's action was passed, and the Secretary read correspondence with the local M.P.s, Lord Charles Beresford stating his willingness to receive a deputation. The interview is to be on Thursday morning, July 20. Further business transacted included the election of a new member (Mr. J. P. Leach), discussion on the School Clinic, and a vote of sympathy and good wishes to a sick member, Mr. A. H. Hoit.

Scarborough.—A meeting of the local Association was held on July 13 at the residence of the Secretary, Gladstone Road, to consider the National Insurance Bill. The President (Mr. W. A. Senior) was in the chair, and among those present were Messrs. J. Whitfield, R. M. Hill, E. R. Cross, G. Whitfield (Divisional Secretary), E. M. Chapman, E. Parker, H. E. Hunt, W. H. Newton, T. Taylor, and G. H. Meadley (Hon. Secretary). It was decided that a letter signed by all the pharmacists in Scarborough should be forwarded to the Borough member (Mr. Walter R. Rea), the member for Whitby Division (Mr. Gervase Beckett), and the member for Buckrose Division (Sir Luke White), together with a copy of "The Case for the Pharmacists." Covering letters are also to be sent asking for an interview.

Thames Valley.—An emergency meeting of the committee of the Thames Valley Pharmacists' Association was held at Kingston on July 11 to consider the National Insurance Bill. Deputations were appointed to wait on the various members of Parliament in the area. Mr. H. E. Clement (Hampton) said he had received a favourable reply from Mr. Mills (Uxbridge Division), and Mr. C. J. Palmer (Twickenham) has interviewed Mr. Joynton-Hicks (Brentford Division), who seemed favourably disposed towards the claims of pharmacists. A deputation, consisting of Messrs. F. Harvey (President) and Clarke (Surbiton), A. Higgs, J.P. (Kingston), W. Peake (Twickenham), J. Parrott (Richmond), T. Evans (East Putney), Toyne (Putney), W. J. U. Woolcock (Barnes), waited by appointment at the House of Commons on July 18 upon Mr. G. Cave, K.C. (Kingston Division), and later upon Sir Henry Kimber (Wandsworth Division), in both instances being favourably received.

Three Towns.—The subject was fully discussed at the quarterly meeting of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Association of Pharmacists, which was held in the Library, 7 Whimble Street, Plymouth, on Thursday evening, July 13, the President (Mr. F. A. Spear) in the chair. Messrs. Condy U'Ren, Edward Turney, J. E. Knight, F. J. Barge, R. F. Roper, S. A. Perkins, A. J. Ancliffe, H. Vibert, J. W. Jones, H. M. Marcolyn, F. W. Broom, W. Barrett, H. Hemming, D. Hollow, and J. J. R. Eslick were also present. Besides supporting the official action, the meeting appointed a deputation of two members to interview the seven members of Parliament for the Three Towns and District in London. [This has been done, as another paragraph shows.—EDITOR.] It was also moved by Mr. R. F. Roper, seconded by Mr. Condy U'Ren: "That some means

should be found to prohibit all advertising, or offering special inducements to obtain clients, under the National Insurance Bill." This was passed unanimously, and the Secretary was instructed to send copies of the resolution to Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., the Pharmaceutical Society, and the trade journals.

Tynemouth.—On Tuesday, July 11, the Tynemouth Pharmacists' Association met in the Bath Hotel, Mr. W. Buckley presiding over a good attendance. The Secretary reported the steps that had been taken with regard to the Bill, and it was agreed to support the Society.

York.—A meeting of the local Association was held at the Old George Hotel on July 11. There were present Messrs. F. C. Hey (President), S. Scruton, J.P., W. Sowray, G. E. Walker, F. A. Newey, E. J. Wood, M. F. Burgin, W. Dewhurst, J. A. Lupton, W. P. Saville, and T. C. Atkinson (Hon. Secretary). The meeting discussed the National Insurance Bill. Several letters from M.P.s were read acknowledging copies of resolutions forwarded by the Secretary, and promising their careful attention. It was agreed to send a signed circular-letter to the various M.P.s with a copy of "The Case for Pharmacists," also a telegram asking for support. The present sub-committee were empowered to deal with any further business in connection with the Bill.

NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Chaplet, A. *La Teinture des Cheveux*. 12×8. Pp. 14. Paper cover. 1.50f. ("La Parfumerie Moderne," 19 Rue Camille, Lyons.) [Issued as a supplement to "La Parfumerie Moderne," and deals with the subject of hair-dyeing under the headings of (1) generalisations, (2) bleaching black hair, (3) vegetable dyes, (4) lead dyes, (5) silver dyes, (6) dyes with other metallic salts, (7) dyes with organic colouring bases. The author has brought together some interesting and useful information, but there is little printed that has not been previously published.]

Christy, C. *The African Rubber Industry and Funtumia elastica* ("Kikxia"). 8½×5½. Pp. 268. 12s. 6d. net. (Bale.)

Hayercraft, T. W. *Handy Book on the Bills of Sale Acts 1878 to 1891*. 2nd edit. 7½×4½. Pp. 146. 2s. 6d. net. (Wilson, 54 Threadneedle Street, London, E.C.) [Mr. Hayercraft mentions in the preface that the book was first brought out in 1890 as "a small and simple guide book to a tiresome legal subject," and in the present edition the arrangement has been left as in the original work. A bill of sale is a document by which a right to personal chattels is transferred without delivery, the goods remaining in possession for some time of the grantor, the legal requirements being contained in the Bills of Sale Acts 1878 and 1882. The subject is notoriously a difficult one, but after reading this book a very good working view of the law will be obtained. Plenty of references are given throughout the book to decided cases, so that unusual points may be further elaborated if the reader so desires.]

Jones, D. W. C. *Introduction to Therapeutic Inoculation*. 7½×5. Pp. 188. 3s. 6d. net. (Macmillan.)

Kenwood, Henry R. *Public Health Laboratory Work*. 5th edit. 8½×5½. Pp. 460. 10s. net. (H. K. Lewis.)

Ostwald, W. *Introduction to Chemistry*. Translated by W. T. Hall and R. S. Williams. 8vo. 6s. 6d. net. (Chapman & Hall.)

Public Health Service Directory and Year-book for 1911. 9¾×6. Pp. 374. 7s. 6d. net. (Hodgetts, 36-38 Whitefriars Street, London, E.C.) [This emanates from the office of "The Medical Officer," and has grown considerably in size since the last edition. The opening sections give details regarding every sanitary and school medical inspection authority in England, Scotland, and Wales. Other features include a guide to isolation hospitals, and a register of voluntary health societies, such as has not been obtainable hitherto. In addition, the volume contains a series of professional biographies of medical officers of health, school medical officers, dental officers, public analysts, veterinary officers, sanitary inspectors, health visitors, school nurses, inspectors of midwives, and matrons of isolation hospitals. Some of the articles, such as "The Functions of a School Dentist," are of particular interest to our readers. Many chemists will find the book a useful one for reference purposes.]

REVIEWS.

Die Offizinellen Ätherische Öle und Balsame. By C. RÖDEN. Berlin: Julius Springer. Pp viii and 176.

This work, published under the auspices of Messrs. E. Sachsse & Co., of Leipzig, the well-known essential-oil distillers, will be welcomed by all those interested in essential oils, either from a commercial or a scientific point of view. The idea of it is not new, for the whole of the material figures for the principal essential oils, as contained in eleven different Pharmacopœias, are set out in a tabular appendix to Parry's "Chemistry of the Essential Oils." But in the present work the author has set out in full the characters and tests of all the essential oils, balsams, and isolated constituents of the same, as contained in the following fourteen Pharmacopœias: United States, Great Britain, Germany, France, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, Japan, and Russia. All processes for analytical determinations are described in full. There are various points to which the attention of the compilers of the next edition of our own Pharmacopœia might usefully be directed, and with a guide to the standards of all other countries, our own essential-oil monographs ought to be the last word as to scientific accuracy on the subject. The formula to be adopted for santalol, $C_{15}H_{24}O$ or $C_{15}H_{26}O$, will require attention in fixing the minimum limit for this alcohol in santal-wood oil, as a difference of 1 per cent. results by the use of the different formulæ, and we find that in the German work the formula $C_{15}H_{24}O$ is adopted, whereas in the French work $C_{15}H_{26}O$ is used, and in others no indication is given as to which should be employed. No Pharmacopœia so far has included refractive indices, but we venture to say that if these figures are included in the next edition of the British Pharmacopœia the others will follow our lead before long.

Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis. Vol. IV. Fourth edition. Edited by W. A. DAVIS, B.Sc., and S. S. SADLER, S.B. $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. by 6 in. Pp. viii + 466. 21s. net. (London, 1911: J. & A. Churchill, 7 Great Marlborough Street.)

WE gave some particulars of this volume in our issue of January 28, index folio 125. In the first part of the book Dr. Blackler deals with resins, such as amber, colophony, copals, sandarac, mastic, shellac, turpentine, balsams, and ammoniacum. Shellac is well treated generally, the monograph being largely based on the various papers published by Mr. E. J. Parry in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* (1902, 1903, 1905). But it is stated that Parry's copper-acetate test will detect as little as 15 per cent. of colophony. This was correctly stated in the last edition as 5 per cent. The chapter on Rubber and its Substitutes occupies about sixty pages, and is a fair statement of the chemistry and analytical processes. The chapter on the hydrocarbons of essential oils, by Dr. Lowry, is well written and full of useful information; but as this volume has been an inordinately long time in appearing after the various chapters were first written it is not to be wondered at that the work on the terpenes, for example, is not up to date. The table of contents for the terpenes on page 168 contains many errors. Recent work on pinene, fenchene, phellandrene, and thujene has not been taken into account, and this leads to numerous errors in the figures. The chapter on the general properties, methods of analysis, and constituents of essential oils, by Mr. E. J. Parry, is well done and up to date, and covers the ground of essential oils from a general point of view with care and accuracy. The delay in publication, no doubt, accounts for the fact that more recent work on the refractive indices of essential oils by this author is to be found in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* for 1910 than in the present monograph. Special objection, however, must be taken to the last chapter, entitled "Special Characters of Essential Oils," on account of the inadequate way in which the subject has been treated. This chapter is written by Dr. Löffmann and Mr. C. H. LaWall, and is little else than a reprint, modified here and there, of the chapter appearing in the last edition. Only a number of selected oils

are dealt with, and the volume must not be regarded as anything like a full treatise on essential oils. For example, we find no treatment of the following oils: Linaloe, rosewood, cardamom, buchu, cananga, cascarilla, cassia, cinnamon, almond, wintergreen (the last four are to be found in Vol. III.), cedrat, tarragon, clove-leaf, ginger, guaiac-wood, orris, lime, jasmín, mustard, patchouli, rue, savin, sweet basil, thuja, vervet, and ylang-ylang. The chemistry of the subject is neither adequate nor up to date. There are no references to the ketone jasmone, the terpene limene, the olefinic terpenes myrcene and ocimene, the alcohol sabinol, and numerous other compounds which have formed the subject of researches during the past few years. So far as it goes, however, the book is a good and useful one, and if the next edition is revised on the lines we have indicated it should certainly regain the place in the affections of chemists that the old "Allen" had.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. WILLIAM J. LUND, chemist, who left for Rome some time ago, is at present on holiday in Lancaster.

MR. FRANK ROSS, of Calcutta, has not been able, as he expected, to leave India, the state of his health not permitting a voyage to London this year.

MR. JULIO HALLÉ, chemist and druggist, of 544 Lavalle, Buenos Aires, has just completed a three months' European business and pleasure trip and returns to the Argentine this week.

MR. EUSTACE H. GANE, of Messrs. McKesson & Robbins, New York, expects to revisit England next month. It is sixteen years since Mr. Gane, who was a Bell scholar in 1891, went out to New York.

MR. A. MACKINTOSH STEWART, managing director of The Dispensary, Ltd., chemists and opticians, Penang, Straits Settlements, who has been spending some months in Great Britain, returned *via* Southampton on July 20.

ALDERMAN J. A. STEWARD, chemist and druggist, has been reappointed by the Worcester City Council as a trustee of the Consolidated Municipal Charities and the Municipal Exhibitions Foundations for a further three years.

LIEUT.-COLONEL ALFRED CHAS. PRESTON, V.D. (Messrs. Thomas Hodgkinson, Prestons & Co.), who acted as a Gold Staff officer at the Coronation ceremony in Westminster Abbey, has received the Coronation medal from the King.

THE name of Mr. Eric K. Rideal, of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, son of Dr. Samuel Rideal, F.I.C., of Victoria Street, Westminster, appears in the first-class Honours List of the National Science Tripos, Part II., chemistry being his special subject.

MR. SYDNEY JAMIESON has been appointed general manager of Syrolit, Ltd., London. Mr. Jamieson joined the originators of the new rival to celluloid a year ago as sales manager, and has been so closely identified with the development of the business that the directors have now advanced him to his new position.

SIR ROBERT CHALMERS, K.C.B., Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, has been appointed Permanent Secretary to the Treasury in succession to Sir George Murray. Sir Robert has occupied his present position at Somerset House since 1907, and for the four years prior to that he was Assistant Secretary to the Treasury. Sir George was entertained at a farewell dinner at 10 Downing Street on Monday by the Prime Minister—himself an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer—the guests including Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. McKenna (an ex-Financial Secretary to the Treasury), Mr. Hobhouse (the present Financial Secretary), and a number of departmental officials.

CALIFORNIAN HONEY.—The estimated production of honey in California in 1910 was 6,000,000 lb., against 10,500,000 lb. in 1909. The season was a fairly prosperous one for the beekeepers, and there has been no special complaint of insufficiency of food or of bee-disease.

TRADE NOTES.

PACKED GOODS LIST.—Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Co., Ltd., 34 Hanover Street, Liverpool, have published this week an illustrated list of the preparations which they manufacture and put up ready for sale by chemists. It is a comprehensive list of nearly 150 pages, and any chemist will obtain a copy post free on application to the above address.

EVANS' EXPORT PRICES CURRENT.—The half-yearly export list just issued by Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., London and Liverpool, is a comprehensive catalogue containing over 400 pages. The various sections have different coloured papers—i.e., drugs (cream), sundries (blue), proprietaries (pink), shop-fittings (green). The sundries and shop-fittings sections are fully illustrated, and photographs of the works are inserted in various parts of the catalogue. Readers overseas who have not received a copy should send their business card to the company.

NEW SIZES OF ALBULACTIN.—Messrs. A. Wulff & Co., 12 Chenies Street, London, E.C., desire us to call attention to the change in size of Albulactin packages, the contents of the three sizes (1s. 3d., 2s. 6d., and 5s.) having been increased by about 60 per cent. without any change in price. This soluble milk-albumen product has met with wide recognition owing to the change it makes in the clot from cow's milk, the casein being precipitated in fine flakes instead of heavy curds. Chemists will find it profitable and much easier to push the sale of the new sizes of this P.A.T.A. article.

SELLING FEATURES are illustrated by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. in their advertisement this week. Their idea is to help retailers all they can in selling their goods, and for this purpose they are regularly introducing new ideas in showcards and display cards—e.g., "The Hazeline Wreath" is a clever arrangement which provides a rest for a single bottle of Hazeline Snow. A kindred idea is provided for the 5s. photographic outfit, and we learn from the firm that wherever these are used by chemists they sell the goods quickly. The firm supply the "features" free on application.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

TAYLOR'S DRUG CO., LTD., have opened a new branch at 18 Silver Street, Bury.

HARTLEYS, chemists, Burnley, have opened new premises at 14 Church Street, Accrington.

MR. E. A. ROWBOTTOM, 63 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has sold his business to Boots, Ltd.

THE BUSINESS of I. Boden & Son, drug-stores, 353 Worsley Road, Winton, Patricroft, has been transferred to Mr. W. H. Boden.

MESSRS. CLAUDE INKSTER, LTD., are opening the Central Pharmacy at 63 High Street, Sutton, Surrey. Messrs. Sangers are doing the shop-fitting.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY, LTD., are removing their offices this week to their newly erected premises, Thames House, Queen Street Place, London, E.C.

MR. STANLEY A. SHACKLETON, pharmacist, has purchased the business and premises of Mr. J. Walker, chemist, 5 Widemarsh Street, Hereford. Mr. Shackleton is the son of Mr. G. W. Shackleton, chemist and druggist, Frogmore Pharmacy, Abergavenny.

ACETANILIDE TEST.—When acetanilide and boric acid are heated over a naked flame until the boric acid melts a yellow residue and fragrant odour suggestive of sweet clove or arbutus are obtained. Antipyrin produces a pink colour and naphthalene-like odour. Phenacetin produces an odour, but characteristic of itself, fainter than that produced by acetanilide or antipyrin.—*American Journal of Pharmacy*.

OPTICAL OBSERVATIONS.

By a Chemist-Optician.

These notes are in most cases supplementary to the information given in "The Chemist-Optician" (C. & D. Office, 4s.), which is a treatise specially written for chemists.

Detecting Disease.

I AM entirely in favour of the sight-testing optician being trained in the use of the ophthalmoscope or any other instrument or method which will lead to the detection of a diseased condition of the eye. Not, however, that he should employ his knowledge in the treatment of disease, because that is recognised as being outside his province; but so that, having reason to believe that a diseased condition is present, he may be able to refer the customer without delay to a medical man. Such knowledge would also prevent the optician from falling into the many pitfalls which exist for the unwary.

Conical Cornea.

MR. CHARLES WRAY, before the Ophthalmological Society on June 8, read a paper on conical cornea. He urged that it is important to diagnose conical cornea early, as a cone implies thinning as well as softening. Efforts should be made to stop the thinning—to prevent the increase of pathological astigmatism and to reduce that already formed. According to Mr. Wray, conus is preceded by astigmatism against the rule mostly correctable by a plus cylinder tending 5° to 15° down and in. A minus cylinder is less frequently needed, possibly because myopia is less frequent than hyperopia. The conus is detectable by the mirror where the astigmatism is about + 1. Over + 2.5 the vessel test and cone shadow are easily seen, though above 5 the vessel phenomenon is less marked. Most of the patients are females from eighteen to twenty-five years of age. The important points in diagnosis are: (a) The correcting cylinder being generally + and 5° to 15° down and in; (b) a distinct cone shadow in those seeking advice on account of asthenopia; (c) the blood-vessel phenomenon being always marked, but more easily seen in the lower grades; (d) the astigmatism being seldom stationary; (e) the patients seeking advice later than those with ordinary astigmatism; and (f) distant and near vision with and without glasses being better than in ordinary astigmatism. The author contended that suitable treatment can retard the progress of conical cornea. Nothing short of accurate correction will prevent the "lid-squeezing" that masks and accelerates the evolution of the cone, even if softening and thinning are not present. The leading points in treatment are: (a) Accurate glasses; (b) no work at reading distance; (c) good hours; (d) air, exercise, etc.; (e) no night work; and (f) a suitable occupation. Local treatment should be based on the type in hand. Type 1, unioocular conus astigmatism. Both eyes to be corrected, as the other will probably become affected later. A slight pressure bandage should be worn night and day over the affected eye. No work at reading distance. Type 2, both eyes affected; astigmatism + 6 D. Binocular bandage night and day. During exercise one eye open. The eyes never to be fully opened. Correcting glasses when the eyes are in use. Type 3, considerable difference between the eyes. The worse eye should be bandaged night and day. The good eye, suitably glassed, to be used for exercise and meals. The good eye not to be opened wider than necessary. Type 4, unioocular cone, astigmatism in the other. The same treatment as previously stated. The cautery should be used if the cone is considerable or if minor measures effect no improvement in three months. Type 5, binocular conus. The best operative procedure is Sir Anderson Critchett's, but it should be clearly understood that the operation neither strengthens the softened cornea nor cures the thinning. Mr. Wray regards operative procedures neither as the beginning nor the end of treatment.

MR. SYDNEY STEPHENSON, F.R.C.S.E., delivered a clinical lecture on conical cornea in the University of Oxford on June 7. In the course of the lecture the difficulty of detecting the disease at the onset was dealt with. The lecture is reported by the "Medical Press and Circular."

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," June 28, 1911.)

- "ANZEP"; for an antiseptic cleansing preparation (47). By Lymath & Co., 46 Grosvenor Road, Gunnersbury. 333,553.
- "KYHO"; for all goods (48). By F. S. Darkin and A. H. B. T. Ponsonby, Langrish House, Meon Valley Road, near Petersfield. 331,662.
- "GLYOLIC"; for all goods (48). By J. C. Boldoot Eau de Cologne Co., Singel, 92, Amsterdam. 332,999.
- "CYNETHIAN"; for all goods (48). By H. Roberts, 8 Market Street, Hyde, near Manchester. 333,353.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," July 5, 1911.)

- "ASSUR"; for chemicals (1). By E. Schering, 170-171 Mullerstrasse, Berlin. 333,260.
- Design of dragon surrounded with the words: "The Pekin Urban Refuse Destructors; Chinese Plague National Germ Extinctors"; for disinfectants (2). By G. R. B. Davies, 50 Avenue Road, Leamington Spa. 332,610.
- "BEECALCAR"; for calcium carbide. By C. Bingham & Co., 11 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 333,694.
- "HORTICOL"; for a liquid dressing for seeds (2). By A. E. Hawker, 59 Mark Lane, London, E.C. 332,167.
- "FUMICIDE"; for fume-destroying compositions (2). By Globe Chemical Works, 74 Newhall Building, San Francisco. 333,453.
- "THERMOSINE-LAROCLETTE" and label design; for a medicinal wadding (3). By B. Mulsant, 21 Rue de la Quarantaine, Villefranche-sur-Saône. 330,564.
- "MEDDABARM"; for ointment (3). By H. & E. Fox, 29 Falcon Grove, Nottingham. 333,026.
- "STOROLINE"; for medicated ointment (3). By Storcroft & Co., Garden House, Arkwright Road, Marple, near Stockport. 333,055.
- "DORIS"; for headache-powders (3). By J. E. Sellars, 144 Huddersfield Road, Oldham. 333,095.
- "SALVAX"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By B. W. Brims, 3 Queen Street, London, E.C. 333,882.
- "BIGBAN"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Thomas Kerfoot, Bardsley Vale Mills, near Ashton-under-Lyne. 333,993.
- "OXYPATH"; for oxygenators (11). By Oxygenator Co., Mutual Life Building, 210 Pearl Street, Buffalo, U.S.A. 330,983.
- "ORION BRAND" and star device; for surgical hosiery (11). By S. Maw, Son & Sons, 7-12 Aldersgate Street, London, E.C. 332,765.
- "THERMICON"; for hair-drying appliances made of earthenware, etc. (16). By E. T. Hincks, Jesmondine, The Avenue, St. Margaret's, Middlesex. 333,277.
- "CONGRESS"; for photographic mounts and albums (39). By Houghtons, Ltd., 88-89 High Holborn, London, W.C. 333,861.
- "LYFO"; for beef-extract (42). By Hedley Vickers & Co., Trafalgar Works, Mount Pleasant, Manchester. 331,374.
- "ALSINA"; for fruit-drinks (42). By E. P. Hoppe, 9 Petzseherstrasse, Leipzig. 332,959.
- "BUXSA"; for extract of beef (42). By Cooper, Cooper & Co., 71-73 Tooley Street, London, S.E. 334,018.
- "MINIMALT"; for food-substances (42). By United Yeast Co., Ltd., 80 Miller Street, Manchester. 333,902.
- Label design of boy with club, etc.; for a water-softener (48). By W. Woodhouse, 31 Castletown Road, London, W. 331,751.
- "CARYSAL"; for preparations for the teeth (48). By J. Barron, junr., 6 Ardross Street, Inverness. 333,616.
- "SHACORA"; for hair-tonics (48). By Fred Shackleton, 23 Balm Road, Hunslet Carr, Leeds. 333,668.
- "SALITHOL"; for toilet hair-preparations (48). By To-Kalon Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 143 and 145 Great Portland Street, London, W. 333,725.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," July 12, 1911.)

- "PENROSE" and design of pen and rose; for photographic chemicals, plates, etc. (1), photographic and chemical apparatus (8), and photographic paper (39). By A. W. Penrose & Co., Ltd., 109 Farringdon Road, London, E.C. 332,459, 332,461, 332,463.
- "DYSAN"; for chemicals (2). By W. H. Scott, High Street, Sandy. 332,986.
- "ROMALÈNE"; for oils (2, 3, and 48). By S. H. H. Barratt, 27 Hollycroft Avenue, Hampstead, London, N.W. 333,013/4/5.
- "MIST ODOR," with signature "W. H. D. Newth," and design of tumbler and holder; for a deodoriser (2). By W. H. D. Newth, 250 Lordship Lane, Dulwich, London, S.E. 333,357.
- "ALDOS," with signature "A. Wulffing & Co." and label design; for all goods (3). By A. Wulffing & Co., 12 Chenies Street, London, W. 333,029.
- "FREXMA" and monogram "T. F."; for medicinal chemicals (3). By T. French, Boscombe House, Leyton, London, N.E. 333,230.

POISONING FATALITIES.

ELEVEN deaths have been reported from poisoning since our last issue. Of these three were by misadventure:

Carbolic Acid was the agent used for self-destruction by Richard Jenkins (47), clothiers' manager, Nottingham, and a married woman named Van Koert Hamlet, of Westcliff-on-Sea.

Laudanum was used for suicidal purposes by Henry Miller (53), general dealer, Shoreditch. Mr. Gibbs, chemist, in his evidence at the inquest, said the bottle must have been supplied by his firm at least five years ago.

Oxalic Acid.—Eliza Bennett (48) died in the General Hospital, Birmingham, from oxalic-acid poisoning. Suicide was the verdict of the Coroner's jury.

Potassium Cyanide.—At Cambridge, Reginald Philip Brans (34), jewellers' assistant, committed suicide by taking this lethal agent. Dr. Naish, at the inquest, stated in reply to the Coroner that there was no restriction on the sale of cyanide of potassium, and it was easy enough for jewellers to get it. The bottle contained sufficient to kill half a dozen men. It was a saturated solution, and a powerful poison. —Charles Maurice Scott (18), son of a Bath physician, ended his life by taking potassium cyanide at the Piccadilly station of the Bakerloo Tube, London. Deceased, who was an amateur photographer, obtained 100 grains of the poison from a chemist at Bath.

Salvarsan.—At the German Hospital the death by misadventure of Hugo A. Klein (47), confectioner, was due to the effects of a subcutaneous injection of salvarsan. At the inquest held by the Hackney Coroner (Dr. W. Wynn Westcott), Dr. Geo. Dornall, medical officer of the German Hospital, said the deceased had a specific disease. Locomotor ataxy had set in, while he had paralysis of the left eye and was deeply blood-poisoned. He was treated with salvarsan, which was first used here in 1910. It was a preparation of arsenic, and like all drugs of that sort it was dangerous. Deceased was treated by injection, 0.6 gram (about 7 grains) being the dose. After treatment he became worse, and died. Witness did not think he would have died from the disease, and he put the cause of death as due to salvarsan. The Coroner said he had written a treatise on salvarsan, and the danger of its use had always been recognised. This preparation of arsenic was said to give anyone an early chance of recovery. It was invented in 1909 by Ehrlich and Hata, and had been used for a year past in England. The remedy was a great and immediate success in syphilitic cases, but there was some risk of illness and loss of sight. There had also been some deaths, three being mentioned in the book he had referred to. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died as a result of the injection of salvarsan, properly used.

Spirit of Salt.—At Wigan, Elizabeth Winstanley (43) died on July 13 from the effects of taking this poison last February. —The same corrosive acid caused the death of Herbert Norton, grocer, Melton Mowbray.

Strychnine.—Geo. Davenport (82), of Roek Ferry, Cheshire, died on Monday night as the result of strychnine-poisoning. Deceased had been in the habit of taking medicinal draughts made up by himself, and by mistake drank half an ounce of strychnine solution.

Zinc-chloride Solution, drunk from a can labelled "Custard Powder," caused the accidental death at Criecklewood of Charles Harold Powell (3).

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Natal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Rogers, of Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co., Ltd., was in Durban when the mail left.—Mr. Stephen F. Webb, of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., visited Durban for the first time during June. He made many friends and reported good business.—Mr. W. H. Goodbrand was with Mr. S. K. Elgie, of Durban, for nine and a-half years, not eleven and a-half as reported in the *C. & D.* of June 3.

Natal Pharmaceutical Society.

THE annual meeting of the above Society was held at the rooms of Mr. G. Stuart Jones on June 15. There were present Messrs. S. K. Elgie (President), in the chair, Champion, Dunkerton, Anderson, Firth, Acton, and Goodbrand (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Jones tendered apologies for absence. On the motion of the President a vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. J. H. Read, and the Secretary was also instructed to forward a letter of sympathy.

CORRESPONDENCE. The Secretary read a letter from the Secretary of the Natal Pharmacy Board in answer to a communication in regard to poisoning-cases. The report of the Board for last year was received and read. The Secretary read a circular letter which had been sent to the members of the Society pointing out that unless they conformed to Rule 10 their names would be struck off the roll-book. Up to the date of the meeting no answers had been received.

THE PRESIDENT'S REVIEW.—The President said that he had only six months' work to report upon, but during this period the Society has sustained the loss by death of no fewer than three Durban members—Mr. C. E. Forth, Mr. F. P. Hamlin, and Mr. J. H. Read, all of whom took a lively interest in the affairs of the Society. Matters in connection with the Medical and Pharmacy Bill remain as they were, but the members of the Pharmacy Board have promised to obtain, if possible, a copy of the proposed Bill before it reaches the Parliamentary stage. The Society must therefore await events, and be on the *qui vive* to take whatever action it may deem necessary. The Society has taken a keen interest in supporting the endeavour to obtain the abolition of the Cape Medicine and Stamp Act. Minor alterations to the rules have become necessary, more especially the one relating to the raising of the annual subscription to one guinea, as this enables the Society to post a printed *resumé* of the monthly proceedings to each member. This no doubt will be much appreciated by those living at a distance who are unable to attend the Society's meetings. Questions have arisen from time to time in regard to the duties on alcohol and alcoholic preparations, and from information obtained by the Hon. Secretary from the Pharmaceutical Societies of the Cape, Orange Free State, and Transvaal it has been found that alcohol in Natal is penalised slightly in excess of that of the other Colonies, but that no change could be made until the Union Parliament appointed a Commission to inquire into the subject of uniform taxation throughout the Union in the matter of excise. The Society is in a sound financial position. The President concluded with thanks to the Executive Committee and the Secretary, adding that the Treasurer's report showed a credit balance of 7l.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS for the ensuing year resulted as follows: *President*, Mr. S. K. Elgie (re-elected); *Vice-President*, Mr. E. B. Dunkerton; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. W. H. Goodbrand (re-elected); *Committee*, Messrs. Champion, Jones, Anderson, and Whysall; *Auditors*, Messrs. Johnston and Roadknight (re-elected).

MISCELLANEOUS.—Arising out of the minutes, Mr. Champion asked whether it would not have been better to delete Rule 18. After conversation on the matter it was resolved that the rule stand as it is. Mr. Champion introduced the subject of an apprentice having been placed in charge of a business, but satisfactory explanations being given the matter terminated. Mr. E. Tyson was re-elected a member of the Society. Unanimous votes of thanks were accorded to the President and Secretary, and also to Mr. Jones for the use of his room. The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

CHINESE ALBUMEN.—The exports from Hankow during 1910 amounted to 16,601 cwt. (55,774l.), against 13,575 cwt. (47,256l.) in 1909.

Trade of South Africa.

THE following figures are compiled from the annual Blue-book of the trade of the Union of South Africa for the year 1910.

	IMPORTS.			
	1909	1910	From U.K. 1910	From Germany 1910
Drugs, Chemicals, and Apothecaries' Wares:				
Acid, acetic ... gals.	1,937	1,670	1,242	50
Acid, nitric ... lb.	30,223	24,161	9,959	10,221
Acid, sulphuric ...	132,347	185,263	133,098	41,969
Acid, tannic ...	1,283	779	57	722
Apoth. wares ... £	92,292	110,833	77,354	14,992
Borax ... lb.	817,102	802,815	802,288	527
Bromine, litharge, and mag. dioxide ... lb.	4,390(£)	483,420	369,867	50,488
Calcium carbide ...	3,977,843	6,555,373	43,936	3,469,514*
Carbonate of ammonia ... £	944	1,138	1,050	4
Caustic soda ... lb.	2,870,013	3,900,738	3,894,469	5,019
Chloride, lime ...	†	672,320	663,558	8,762
Cyanide of potash ...	678,180	258,258	188,676	163,401
Cyanide of sodium ...	10,126,635	11,570,205	3,558,639	7,296,009
Disinfectants and germicides ... £	25,901	29,194	25,870	1,568
Mag. sulph. (bulk) lb.	393,293	466,937	413,937	46,092
Medicinal preps. spirituous ... gals.	6,820	8,028	4,167	508
Medicinal, non-spirituous ... £	79,042	96,568	63,558	6,138
Opium ... lb.	3,234	771	230	41
Pills ...	117	39	17	19‡
Potash compounds n.o.d. ... lb.	†	660,616	333,087	271,913
Soda compounds n.o.d. ... £	12,809	14,521	11,168	1,377
Tinctures ... gals.	436	509	355	66
All other drugs and chems. ... £	64,425	70,831	53,476	47,903
Aerated waters ...	13,300	14,546	11,677	1,389
Extracts and essences ...	15,390	18,647	17,591	89
Flavouring exts. spirituous ... gals.	10,859	7,260	5,474	251
Saccharin ... lb.	573	667	355	116
Spices:				
Cassia and cinnamon lb.	81,837	106,069	20,361	274
Cloves ...	31,346	50,955	31,711§	—
Ginger (dry) ...	161,880	223,548	55,225	224
Nutmegs and mace ...	19,832	25,195	3,595	50
Pepper ...	322,094	357,375	216,805	20
Turneric ...	203,299	239,298	5,998	—
Other spices ...	87,212	97,383	40,022	296
Tamarinds ...	573,491	701,838	193	693,276¶
Tartaric acid ...	n.o.d.	90,823	36,270	41,873
Cream of tartar ...	n.o.d.	183,595	42,514	115,436¶
Glycerin for manufacture ...	12,857,477	13,577,645	6,799,021	6,960,804**
Surgical instruments ... £	4,376	7,135	4,987	1,284
Washing soda ... lb.	5,8055	352,906	289,226	1,670
Castor oil ... gal.	102,874	110,563	39,644	194
Essential oils ... £	10,570	17,135	2,333	10,544**
Perfumery ...	36,429	47,071	25,807	4,783
Perfumed spirit... gal.	4,959	7,728	3,442	2,795
Photographic materials ... £	31,066	34,897	22,281	3,126
Quicksilver ... lb.	229,443	286,478	16,218	70,743
Saltpetre ...	181,799	177,585	118,919	22,477
Sheep-dip ... £	75,435	80,165	55,789	2,131
Soap, ext. and pdl. lb.	237,387	318,638	314,363	2,972
" common ...	17,410,977	16,265,760	15,691,264	20,828
" toilet ...	808,020	1,073,317	912,951	28,106
Surgical and Dental appliances ... £	17,691	25,709	21,504	877

* From Sweden. † With drugs n.o.d. ‡ From France. § From Zanzibar. ¶ From India. ** Holland. *** From India.

	EXPORTS.			
	1909	1910	To U.K. 1910	To Germany 1910
Aloes ... lb.	697,176	745,197	534,737	142,592
Argol ...	142,891	82,422	66,140	16,282
Buchu ...	230,125	273,325	155,093	37,288*
Arrowroot ...	11,830	17,958	17,944	—
Baking Powder† ...	1,697	2,000	350	—
Wax, bees ...	5,889	907	797	—
Wax, berry ...	31,196	8,808	8,808	—

* To U.S.A. † Imported goods, re-exported.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., July 20.

THERE is a fair amount of activity in drugs and chemicals, with several interesting features to note, including a long-looked-for advance in cascara sagrada, the consumptive demand for which has been good; senega is also dearer, it still being difficult to obtain offers of new crop at reasonable prices. American peppermint oil remains very firm and in upward tendency. Opium appears to be again on the move up, the temporary set-back of last week having been recovered. Morphine-makers are quite unwilling to book contracts on such an uncertain and dangerous market. New Belgian chamomiles have been selling at full rates. Menthol is firm but quiet. Cocaine is lower. Almond oil is 1d. dearer, and higher rates have been paid for Soudan acacia. Acetic acid has been advanced 30s. per ton. Quinine is steady, and quicksilver rather easier in second hands. The following are the principal changes of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Lower
Acetic acid	Acacia gum	Cocaine
Almond oil (B.P.)	(Soudan)	Shellac
Cascara sagrada	Lemon juice	Turpentine
Opium		
Potashes		
Senega		

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, July 17:—The sales of opium amount to 30 cases at the parity of 22s. per lb. for fair manufacturing quality; the sales are to consumers and speculators. Market continues firm.

NEW YORK, July 20:—Business in drugs is fair. Opium has advanced 30c. per lb. to \$6.50 for druggists' by single cases. Peppermint oil in tins is nominal at \$2.70. Cascara sagrada has advanced ¼c. to 9c. Copaiba is lower at 40c. for Central and South American. Senega is dearer at 52c. per lb. Refined camphor has declined to 45c. per lb. for domestic in bulk. Hydrastis is almost unobtainable, and spring-dug is dearer at \$3.25 per lb.

AMSTERDAM, July 15:—At the auction of cinchona held here to-day 9,622 packages were offered, of which 6,597 packages were sold, at the average unit of 3.22c. per half-kilo., compared with 3.16c. paid at the previous auction. The following were the approximate quantities of "quinine in the bark" purchased by the factories: (1) The English and American factories, 8,077 kilos.; (2) the Brunswick factory, 2,844 kilos.; (3) the Mannheim factory, 4,289 kilos.; (4) the Amsterdam factory, 3,237 kilos.; (5) the Frankfurt and Stuttgart factories, 4,202 kilos.; (6) the Maarsse factory, 6,350 kilos.; (7) various buyers, 8,549 kilos. The prices paid for manufacturing bark ranged from 8½c. to 34½c., and for druggists' bark from 7½c. to 38c. per half-kilo. was paid.

English Herb Crops.

Messrs. W. Ransom & Son, of Hitchin, submit the following report of their crops:

HYOSCYAMUS.—This has been a good average crop.

BELLADONNA.—This has also been up to the average. The dry weather has caused it to develop rapidly, and it has been difficult to get it harvested in its best condition.

LAVENDER.—Owing to the low prices that have recently prevailed the acreage has much decreased. The hot weather is bringing it forward very rapidly and it will yield well if present conditions continue.

PEPPERMINT.—This looked well in the earlier part of the season, but the dry weather has interfered with the growth and the crop will probably not be large.

ELATERIUM.—The fruit is rapidly maturing. Much depends upon the weather conditions during the next two months.

ROSEMARY.—This will probably be below the average.

ACONITE.—But little of this is now grown. The yield of herb and root has been about as usual.

Manchester Chemical Market.

July 17.

Heavy chemicals are held for full late rates, but there is a quiet feeling prevailing both on home and export account. Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., is quoted at from 4l. to 4l. 5s. per ton, in bags, f.o.r.; soda crystals, 50s.; bleaching-powder, 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 7s. 6d. for softwood casks, all on rails makers' works. Acetate of lime remains firm at 9l. 10s. to 9l. 15s. for grey, and 6l. 10s. to 6l. 12s. 6d. per ton for brown American, c.i.f. terms. Chloride of calcium is selling at from 1l. 17s. 6d. to 2l. per ton on rails makers' works. Hyposulphite of soda is quiet at 5l. 15s. to 6l. 5s. per ton. Potashes are steady at about late rates. Sulphate of potash is quoted at 10l. per ton, and nitrate of potash at 25l. to 26l. per ton. Carbonate of potash is in good demand; 90 to 92 per cent. at 19l. to 19l. 5s. per ton. Yellow prussiate quiet. Alum is unchanged, and a better demand is reported for sulphur; flowers are 8l. 10s. per ton in 2-cwt. bags; roll, 6l. 12s. 6d. in 3-cwt. barrels; rock, 5l. 5s. per ton in 3-cwt. bags; recovered, 4l. 17s. 6d. to 5l. per ton, all free on rails makers' works. Acids and cream of tartar are in fair request. Arsenic is quiet and unchanged. Sulphate of copper is in buyers' favour. Coal-tar products remain steady generally, though for some sorts values are low. Sulphate of ammonia is firm at 13l. 10s. to 13l. 11s. 9d. f.o.b. Manchester. Carbolic acids and benzols show little change.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is little of change or of very special interest to be noted as regards affairs in the heavy-chemical market. The position is much the same at all the main centres, there being a steady all-round demand both on contract and miscellaneous account, though there is no great pressure. As regards values, they are, generally speaking, firm and well maintained, and apparently likely to remain so.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA as regards prompt business is fairly active, more particularly owing to demand from dealers. Prices are firm, and for forward delivery higher figures are asked, but little business of moment seems to be passing in this direction. Present nearest figures: Beekton, prompt, 25-per-cent. ammonia guaranteed, 13l. 6s. 3d.; London terms, 13l.; Leith, prompt, 13l. 12s. 6d.; July-December, 13l. 15s.; Liverpool, prompt, 13l. 12s. 6d.; and forward, 13l. 15s.; Hull, prompt, 13l. 10s., and July-December, 13l. 12s. 6d.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—The demand here both on home and export account is good, at practically unchanged figures. Bleaching-powder, prompt, 4l. 15s. to 5l. for softwood casks on rails. Caustic soda is active; 76 to 77 per cent., 10l.; 70 per cent., 9l. 5s.; and 60 per cent., 8l. 5s. per ton; for export and home trade figures 7s. 6d. per ton more. Salt-cake and soda crystals in demand, and chlorates and prussiates on steady side.

LEAD SALTS continue to move at about normal rate and keep fairly steady. White lead, 16l. 10s. to 16l. 15s.; red lead, 15l. 15s. to 16l. per ton, Tyne; white acetate of lead, 23l. 15s. to 24l.; and brown acetate of lead, 19l. to 19l. 5s.; nitrate of lead, 25l. to 25l. 5s., all per ton, less 2½ per cent.

ZINC SALTS are well maintained at late rates, with steady request. Zinc sulphate crystals, 7l. to 7l. 5s. per ton; zinc chloride, 100° Tw., 6l. to 6l. 5s. per ton.

MAGNESIUM SALTS are in active request at unaltered figures. Sulphate, 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton; chloride, 67s. 6d. to 70s. per ton; and carbonate, 30s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

ACETIC ACID.—The position of this article has been entirely changed, especially in consequence of a not inconsiderable increase in the cost of raw material. This latter was heretofore so depressed and considered so unremunerative that there was no other alternative but to raise it by about m.6 to m.8 per kilo.

GLYCERIN.—There is but little inclination to do further business, whether by buyers or sellers, as the situation is very uncertain, and raw material still shows a tendency to depreciate further, as shown at any rate by the official quotations. This is, however, again conflicting with the fact that large quantities at the prices named are unobtainable. Quotations on the Paris Bourse have in June dropped to 182.50f., and this month to 180f. Manufacturers of raw glycerin

Assuming that raw material is really scarce, while dynamite qualities are still required in large quantities, a price-advance can hardly be avoided as soon as the trade demand revives, if not before the autumn. The discouraging slackness in the international market continues in Marseilles. The limited business from day to day is even so difficult that prices are unreliable. As heretofore, large buyers hold aloof, but sellers are equally indifferent. Interest is mostly centred in orders for next year's deliveries, but there is wide divergence of views as to prices. Spot supplies are insignificant. Acceptance reserved, raw glycerin unpacked in buyers' casks f.o.b. to a suitable European port for not less than 10,000 kilos. is quoted thus: Soap qualities (88 per cent.), spot and 1911 delivery, 182.50f. to 187.50f., according to quality; 1911 delivery, 182.50f. to 185f., with $\frac{3}{2}$ per cent. discount. Glycerin from lye (80 per cent.), 150f. to 155f., and 145f. to 150f. respectively net or with $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount.

PECCUANHA.—*Carthagenia* is quiet, but arrivals are small; quotations are, however, maintained at m.17 to m.17.25 per kilo. The cheap stock of Rio qualities has been cleared, so that at present nothing can be secured in first-hand under m.18 per kilo.

ERGOT.—As the new Spanish crop will soon be available, the demand has "dried up," although no definite news has been received as to the state of the crop. Russian and Spanish in small lots on the spot (Hamburg) are offering at m.9.50 per kilo.

QUILLAI.—The long looked-for advance has set in. The materially higher prices from Chili and the strong demand for cut qualities have infused much more interest into the article lately. Anything obtainable up to about m.52 per 100 kilos. has been snapped up. Chili is now apparently exacting prices equal to the parity of m.55 c.i.f. Hamburg for the surplus left there. Quotations for the cut article are at present only nominal, and are at least m.55.

WAX.—Business was quiet with a small demand for Caranaba, and the quotation for fatty grey remains at m.317.50. For sandy grey on the way m.307.50 per 100 kilos. is demanded. There have been no fresh arrivals, and but few are looked for. Yellow is very firm and little offered. Pale sorts of beeswax on the spot (Hamburg) are in eager request. For Chilian, Brazilian, and similar sorts m.2.95 per kilo. has been paid for immediate delivery; terms for shipment are relatively cheaper.

London Markets.

ACETIC ACID.—As a result of the advance in acetate of lime announced a fortnight ago, the prices of acetic acid have been raised 30s. per ton all round; the quotation for *glacial* (98 to 99 per cent.) being 31l. 10s. per ton, and other strengths in proportion.

ALMOND OIL has been advanced by 1d. per lb., the price of sweet B.P. being 2s. 3d. per lb. in cwt. lots and *pallid* 2s. 5d.

ALMONDS.—Persian sweet are unobtainable on the spot, the last business being at 105s. per cwt. for good.

ALOES.—Arrivals of new crop Curaçao amounting in all to about 100 cases have taken place, part of which will be offered at auction next week.

ANISEED is steady but slow of sale at 24s. 6d. to 25s. per cwt. for good Russian, and 27s. 6d. to 30s. for Spanish.

ANISE OIL (STAR) is steady, with small sales at 4s. 10d. on the spot, and for arrival 4s. 6d. c.i.f. is quoted.

ANTIMONY.—When the International Antimony Convention signalled its formation a few months ago by a rather drastic advance in prices, it was asserted that it had practical control of the trade, but subsequent events have by no means borne out this claim. Outside competition quickly forced it to reduce prices to levels substantially the same as those ruling before its formation, and, according to a Berlin report, serious internal troubles are now being experienced which are not unlikely to lead to the break-up of the Convention. The difficulties appear to be in connection with differences between the Chinese producers and other members of the Convention.

BERGAMOT OIL.—A Palermo advice of July 15 reports an inactive and unaltered market; 36 to 38 ester is quoted 19s. 4½d. c.i.f. London.

BUCHU.—The *Kinfauns Castle* has brought 14 bales. Market remains flat in the absence of American demand, but small buyers would probably still have to pay 4s. 3d. for fair greenish short-broad leaf.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Quiet. Sellers of Japanese slabs on the spot quote 1s. 6d., and for August-September 1s. 6½d. c.i.f., while 1-oz. tablets offer at 1s. 7½d. c.i.f.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE) is unchanged, China selling in retail at 155s. spot.

CANARY-SEED is unchanged on the spot at 42s. 6d. per quarter for Turkish, 40s. to 44s. for common to good Morocco, and 60s. to 75s. for good to fine Spanish.

CARAWAY-SEED is quiet at 22s. 6d. per cwt. for fair Dutch on the spot.

CARBOLIC ACID is firm at the recently advanced prices, which for crystals are from 6¼d. to 6½d. per lb. for 34° to 35° C., and 6½d. to 6¾d. for 39° to 40° C., in 1-cwt. drums and overcasks, f.o.b. terms. *Cresylic*, 95-per-cent., is 1s. 4d. per gal. for dark, 1s. 4½d. for sherry colour, and up to 1s. 7d. for pale, casks included. *Crude* is scarce, with buyers at 2s., with the possibility of buying at 2s. 1½d., although sellers ask 2s. 3d. It is said that the position may be affected by the troubles in Morocco, but a more potent factor in the outlook for higher prices is the outbreak of cholera in Italy, to which centre there has been a fair demand lately. It is also stated that there is an inquiry on this market for 280 tons of crystals on behalf of the French Government. The possibility is, therefore, that present prices will be maintained at least throughout the remainder of the year.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Dearer. Quite a good business has been done on the spot from dealers' hands, mostly to consumers, at prices ranging from 38s. 6d. to 41s. per cwt., the higher price being for old bark, but 42s. 6d. is now asked, and even more by those who are indifferent sellers. The last drug statistics showed a stock of 369 tons on the spot, but this figure is now thought to have been materially reduced. To arrive ten tons have also been sold from the Pacific Coast at 40s. c.i.f. London.

CHAMOMILES.—No new are yet on offer; meanwhile retail sales of the old continue to be made at the prices quoted last week. To-day we hear that sales of new Belgian are being made at 73s. 6d. for August shipment.

CHILLIES.—Steady; at auction 24 bags Nyasaland sold at 45s. 6d. for fair bright and 42s. 6d. for mixed red and yellowish; 120 bags East Coast African also sold at from 44s. to 45s. 6d., and mixed red and yellowish at 42s. 6d.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Java to Europe during the first half of July amounted to 858,000 Amst. lb., against 291,000 Amst. lb. in 1910 and 869,000 Amst. lb. in 1909. At the London auction on Tuesday 149 packages East Indian offered, and 125 packages sold at the unaltered unit of 7½d. per lb., the following prices being paid: Crown, natural stem chips, 2½d. to 2¾d., root 1¾d., quills 3½d. to 3¾d. *Succirubra*, natural stem chips, 1¾d. to 2¼d.; renewed ditto, 2½d. to 2¾d. *Ledgeriana*, natural stem chips, 4d., and branch 1¾d. per lb.

CITRONELLA OIL.—Sales of Ceylon have been made at 11d. c.i.f., with further sellers at 11½d.

CLOVES.—At auction 258 bags Zanzibar offered and 160 bales (including 100 without reserve) at 7d. per lb. for ordinary dark. Privately there are sellers of fair Zanzibar at 7½d. spot; market has been dull, the sales including January-March shipment at 5½d. c.i.f. d/w and sellers; June-August and July-September deliveries are quoted 7½d.

The Agent for the Zanzibar Government communicates to Reuter's Agency the following telegram from the First Minister of the Zanzibar Government concerning the clove crop for the current season: "It is estimated that the clove crop for 1911-1912 will exceed the large one of 1908-1909, which amounted to 153,800 bales. That crop was late, but the present crop will begin early and will be in full activity by October."

COCAINE.—To the surprise of everybody concerned, the principal makers, who have an understanding as to prices, have suddenly reduced quotations by 1s. 5d. per oz., and now offer hydrochloride at 7s. 11d., less 5 per cent. for 175-oz. contracts, and at from 8s. 1d. to 8s. 3d. for smaller quantities. The probable cause of the reduction is lack of demand, as *crude* is not materially cheaper.

COD-LIVER OIL.—The firmer tone noted last week is maintained, but naturally there is little business. Good brands of Norwegian non-freezing oil are obtainable at from 106s. to 107s. per barrel c.i.f., but some ask 110s. to 115s., and on the spot from 109s. to 110s. is quoted. Our Bergen correspondent, writing on July 17, reports an

unchanged market, a few small orders having been placed; he quotes from 107s. 6d. to 108s. 6d. c.i.f. terms.

COPAIBA remains steady and in jobbing demand at from 1s. 9½d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. for Maracaibo B.P., and at 2s. 2d. for Para.

COPPER SULPHATE shows little alteration, ordinary Liverpool brands closing at 19l. 10s. per ton for prompt delivery, and 20l. for January-April.

CORIANDER-SEED.—New crop Morocco has been sold at 16s. per cwt. for small lots on the spot and at 14s. c.i.f. terms for 10-ton parcels.

CUMIN-SEED.—No sales are reported, but the spot value remains at 22s. 6d. to 25s. per cwt. for ordinary to good Morocco. The new season's crop of Morocco is of good quality, and for sifted in at least half-ton lots 23s. per cwt. is quoted for August-September shipment from Hamburg.

FENUGREEK-SEED is steady at 9s. per cwt. on the spot for good Morocco.

GENTIAN.—The *Rydal Hall* has brought 170 bales from Marseilles.

GINGER.—Quiet; at auction 127 bags medium-cut Cochin were bought in at 80s. per cwt.

GUM ACACIA.—Soudan is dearer, fair sorts being held for 50s. per cwt., and to arrive it is doubtful if 47s. 6d. c.i.f. would be accepted. Market is bare of Aden gum, which is much wanted; in Senegal gum a fair business has been done in recent arrivals at Bordeaux. So-called insoluble Bushire sorts are unchanged, the sales including fair ordinary at 23s. 6d. to 24s.; Mohamerah and pale selected amber are wanted, such being worth from 25s. to 28s.

IPECACUANHA.—The s.s. *Aragon* from Montevideo has brought 13 packages.

KOLA remains scarce, and in one direction 6d. is quoted for fair West Indian.

LEMON-JUICE.—English raw is now selling at 1s. 5d. and refined at 1s. 8d. per gal.

LEMON OIL.—From Palermo under date of July 15 an inactive market is reported. The recent advance was caused more by speculative purchases than by actual requirements of consumers, as they have been entirely absent, their policy being to cover actual requirements only; on the other hand, sellers have not been discouraged by the inactivity, and do not show any anxiety to clear prompt oil; prices are therefore still very firm, and the tendency continues strong, holders being ready to take advantage of the first opportunity to bring about an excited market; for shipment 5s. 10d. f.o.b. Palermo is quoted, and from Messina another quotation is 6s. c.i.f.

LIME-JUICE.—The parcel offered in sale last week was subsequently sold at 1s. 3d. per gal.; the quality was common, the samples showing a large amount of pulp. Fine qualities of raw West Indian are badly wanted, and are worth 1s. 9d., while refined is offered at 2s.

LINSEED.—There has been a good demand, and the market has ruled steady at 67s. per quarter for fair Morocco, and 70s. to 72s. 6d. for fine clean qualities of other descriptions.

MACE.—At auction the large supply of West Indian sold at steady rates, but pickings were 1d. cheaper; ordinary to fair sold at 2s. to 2s. 2d., good 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d., and broken 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. per lb.

MENTHOL is quiet but firm, spot holders still asking 16s. 9d., with the possibility of a limited quantity being obtainable at 16s. 6d.; for August-September shipment new crop Suzuki is quoted 15s. 4½d. and oil at 6s. c.i.f. The agents for this brand estimate the forthcoming crop at approximately 100,000 lb. for the Bingo and 200,000 lb. for the Hokkaido district.

MORPHINE.—Makers are quite unwilling to book contracts, and their prices are nominal in view of the position of opium. There is a fair inquiry in second-hands, business having been done in hydrochloride at about 9s. per oz.

MUSK is in little demand, with moderate supplies; fine Pile I. Tonquin blue skin pod is held at 67s. per oz., and

old-style thick skin Pile I. at 54s. China Cabardine is worth 25s., and fairly dry Russian 18s. to 19s. per oz.

NUTMEGS.—At auction the large supply of 665 packages West Indian offered and practically all sold, 60 to 80's being steady, and others ½d. per lb. lower.

OLIBANUM.—Steady, with moderate supplies; sales of garblings have been made on the spot in a small way at 25s. for good and at 22s. for common siftings.

OPIMUM.—The slight reaction of last week has quickly disappeared, and a firm market is now reported by cable from Turkey, from whence 21s. to 21s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. is quoted for 11½ per cent.; on the spot small sales of Turkey druggists' are being made at 19s. 6d. to 20s., and Malatia at 20s. 6d. Persian on the spot has been sold at 18s. 6d. for full test, but at the close 20s. is wanted for a few cases, and holders are very firm at this price; in fact, it may be said holders at present have withdrawn, as the news from Persia in regard to the outbreak of civil war at Shiraz places the crop in a precarious condition. Indeed, it may be said prices in the opium market altogether are at a dangerously high level, and the greatest caution is necessary. Should the price of Turkey opium be driven up to 25s. later in the season, it need hardly be said that business will be reduced to a minimum.

Writing on July 7, a Smyrna correspondent states that the opium position continues firm, but consumers tardily respond at 6d. to 1s. per lb. lower than what shippers can actually buy on the market. Nevertheless some business has been done, evidently owing to stocks held by shippers bought a few weeks back at cheaper rates. The price for extra-selected Karahissar is 22s. 6d., and as they are buying new crop in the interior at comparatively higher figures they will not make the slightest concession. The sales amount to eight cases new crop and 64 old, at 19s. to 19s. 6d. for the new and 21s. to 23s., as to quality, for the old. The difference in morphine between new and old is about 15 per cent. in favour of the old. As regards the crop, the following is the latest official estimate: Salonica, 450 cases; Karahissar, 750; Konia, 800; Boghaditz and Balukissar, 250; Smyrna, 700; Constantinople, 400; totalling 3,350. The arrivals to date amount to 125 cases, against 420 at the same period last year.

From Salonica an advice of July 10 states that the latest news with regard to the crop both here, Constantinople, and Smyrna is still unsatisfactory, and the total output is not expected to be more than from 4,200 to 4,500 cases. In the Salonica district, where the crop was estimated at 600 cases, it is anticipated that not more than about 300 cases will be obtainable. The Smyrna district has had heavy rains, which damaged the crop very extensively, and quality will be very poor. The arrivals up to July 8 were 123 cases, against 423 cases a year ago. The stocks left over from last year are about 600 cases only. Very unsatisfactory news is also reported from this point, and the stock left over from last year is only 240 cases.

A Reuter message from Peking, dated July 18, states that the Chinese Government has decided to prohibit the importation of Persian and Turkish opium from January 1912. "The Times" correspondent at Peking also telegraphed on July 19 that "China's notification to the Powers that from January 1, 1912, Persian and Turkish opium will be treated as uncertificated—and that, therefore, its entry will be prohibited—is in accordance with the terms of the Annex to the recent Opium Agreement. Persia and Turkey, who are non-Treaty Powers, in 1910 imported 619 chests to the value of 115,000l., which were almost entirely handled by British dealers. The other actions of China are not in accordance with the Agreement. Since the signature of the Agreement in Peking there has been constant friction in Canton between the British and Chinese authorities. The Viceroy of Canton, needing revenue badly, is imposing an additional tax on Indian raw opium of 50c. per oz., equal to \$800 a chest, in disregard of Article 7, which provides that Indian raw opium having paid full duty shall be exempt from any further taxation in the port of import. The Viceroy ingeniously imposes an illegal tax under pretence of adding 50c. worth of anti-opium medicine to each ounce of raw opium. Such evasions of the compact inevitably delay the operation of the Agreement, the object of which is the extinction of the opium trade as soon as possible." [The above telegram is loosely expressed, the obvious meaning being that Persia and Turkey exported 619 chests to China in 1910.—ED.]

ORANGE OIL.—According to a Palermo advice (July 15) a few parcels changed hands at the full parity of previous quotations; stocks are so small that holders do not need any efforts to maintain figures; sweet for shipment is quoted at 7s. 9d. c.i.f.

OTTO OF ROSE.—In the absence of any definite price for the new crop agents refrain from offering until the outlook is more settled. Meanwhile finest guaranteed pure of old crop (on Parry's analysis) is offered at 40s. per English oz.

The following is an extract from a report issued by Messrs. Chas. Zimmermann & Co.: "Messrs. Orozoff's reports concerning the shortage of this year's crop have now been confirmed by several other shippers, some even taking a more pessimistic view. A crop of 20 to 30 per cent. less than last year's, which was even below the average, may now be reckoned on for certain. . . . No price for new otto has yet been fixed, but we must again draw buyers' attention to the facts published last week to the effect that the price of pure otto is in the region of about 42s. per English oz."

PENNYROYAL OIL.—Foreign of B.P. quality is obtainable at 4s. per lb.

PEPPER is steady but quiet, fair Singapore offering at 47d. spot, and July-September shipment at 4½d.; in white pepper, sales of Singapore have been made at 7½d. spot; there are buyers of Singapore for August-October shipment at 7½d. c.i.f.; sellers of Penang at 6½d. c.i.f.; and for Muntok 7½d. c.i.f. has been paid for July-August shipment.

PEPPERMINT OIL remains very firm; business has been done in American tin oil at 11s. 9d. for well-known brands, and since then one agent has been instructed to advance his price to 12s. 6d.; sales of H.C.H. have been made at 14s. 9d., with 15s. asked. Japanese remains steady, with sales of Suzuki at 6s. c.i.f. for August-September shipment.

PIMENTO.—Steady, with sales in auction at 2½d. per lb. for fair.

POTASHES.—Owing to scarcity first Montreal quality has been advanced about 3s. per cwt. to 37s. 6d. for spot supplies, while in Liverpool the value is 38s.

QUICKSILVER is unaltered. Firsts has been dealt in largely at 9l. per bottle, and in second hands from 8l. 18s. to 8l. 19s. is quoted at the close to-day.

QUININE remains firm, second-hand sellers quoting the German sulphate at 7d., Amsterdam 7d., and Java 6½d. to 6¾d. per oz. The Customs bill shows exports of 150,000 oz. this week.

SARSAPARILLA.—Steady, with sales of Mexican at 7½d. per lb. net on spot.

SENEGA.—A further advance has taken place, business having been done at from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. per lb. net on the spot, and a limited quantity is available at 2s. 3d.; in new crop a fair business has been done to arrive, and the cheap offers have been absorbed, nothing now being offered from New York under 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. c.i.f.

SENNA.—The *Clan Stuart* has brought 222 bales from Tuticorin, but although said to be new crop doubt is expressed on this point.

SHELLAC.—Quiet and easier on the spot, fair TN offering on the basis of 68s., and for arrival TN for October-December shipment is quoted 67s. and AC Garnet 63s. c.i.f.; a fair business has been done in futures, including August delivery at 65s. to 66s., October at 67s., and December at 68s. to 69s.

TURMERIC continues easy, with sellers of Madras finger at 25s., and for a parcel of 45 bags, fair whole bulbs ex-auction, 18s. was paid subsequent to the sale; in Cochin split bulbs 15s. has been paid, and Bengal finger is offered at 22s. 6d. spot.

TURPENTINE OIL.—The market closed last week at 38s. for American on the spot, but since then there has been a further slight decline, the market closing at 37s. 6d., and August at 37s. 6d.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—The *Basil* from Parnahyba has brought 566 bags to Liverpool. For waxy grey 160s. per cwt. spot is asked.

WAX, JAPANESE.—The spot value remains at 41s., and on c.i.f. terms 39s. 6d. is quoted.

PERSIAN GALLS.—The exports from Basra (Persian Gulf) during 1910 amounted to 7,616 bags, against 5,326 bags in 1909 and 5,297 bags in 1908. The bulk last year was absorbed by the United Kingdom.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with.

Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest.

Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Royal Institute of Public Health.

SIR,—Any of your readers who intend to contribute papers to the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, which is to be held in Dublin from August 15 to 21, should send in the titles at once to Dr. McGinnis, City Hall, Dublin.

Yours truly,

J. C. McWALTER

(Chairman of the Executive Committee).

A National Association of Retail Chemists.

SIR,—Can Mr. Moreton Parry in his wildest flights of imagination picture such, when one finds there are still many chemists in business who will not subscribe even to the Chemists' Defence Association?

While recognising the great advantage that such a union would be to the chemists of this country, it seems to me it would mean more overlapping. At present we have the Pharmaceutical Society, the P.A.T.A., the C.D.A., the B.P. Conference, and the Local Chemists' Associations, with their allied trading sections. Surely without further increasing these bodies some Napoleon among chemists can arise and weld them into one strong trade-union of retail chemists.

Yours truly,

H. W. HARRIE

(Hon. Sec. U.K.C.T. Association (Incorporated), Bournemouth Branch).

Drugs for India.

SIR,—By the time this reaches you any remarks on the above topic will be somewhat out of date, but I think it will not be without interest to learn of another method practised by a respectable firm to retain their position on the market. Potassium iodide is an article which has a large and steady sale, and while adulteration with bromide is common there are one or two well-known brands which are popular and command a comparatively high price. To meet competition, one of the principal export firms put up their ordinary 1-lb. bottle containing 15 oz., and attach a small slip label at the foot of the bottle saying so. Now, it is a fine point as to how far this may be regarded as immoral practice. The actual quantity is correctly stated; but I think it would be rather insulting to the intelligence of the members of the firm to suggest that they did not know the intention of the people who required the drug packed in this manner. The small slip is separate from the house label and can easily be removed. In your issue of May 13 Messrs. Howards & Sons suggest an explanation of a slight shortage in weight of 1-oz. bottles of quinine sulphate, and possibly they may be right in this instance, but that short weight is given abundance of evidence may be had. I have just opened two 1-oz. bottles of quinine sulphate put out by a London wholesale drug-house, and the exact weights were 328 grains and 380 grains. I took particular care to see that the bottles had not been tampered with in any way. In view of the high position of the house, it is somewhat disappointing to find them practising such methods. I had instructed my servant to buy the cheapest obtainable, and the price was one shilling net inclusive of bottle, freight, and duty.

Yours faithfully,

J. J. McBETH,

Bangkok, June 7. Proprietor, the British Dispensary.

"Why Branches Don't Pay."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Perplexed" says he works from 8.30 in the morning to 11 and 12 at night, but

fails to say why he signs himself "Perplexed." Perhaps he is perplexed to find suitable recreation for his leisure hours; if so, let me suggest he takes a part-time situation in an all-night pharmacy.

Yours faithfully,

Herne Bay.

F. H. NEALE.

A *Mechanical Man* (94/49), writing in regard to the letter of "Perplexed" in the *C. & D.*, July 1, says: "From experience gained, both as employer and employé, I should say that a business with such a small turnover as 15*l.* per week is not a successful one, if everything is sold at lowest store prices. In fact, it would be run at a loss. Apart from 'Perplexed,' who is, of course, infallible, errors in giving change are inevitable. The stores system of counter-books and cashiers has much to be said for it, but even then mistakes occur. All the secrets so laboriously excavated from his own experience and given forth to the long-suffering readers of the *C. & D.* as new discoveries, have become wearisome from mere repetition. They are every-day business axioms. I ask 'Perplexed,' What is the difference between a successful manager of a private branch shop and a successful manager of a drug-store branch? I am afraid the answer is because the latter is 'more so,' for the simple reason that men with brains, tact, originality, and even imagination, find better payment and better treatment with the drug-stores, and naturally gravitate there. I will not touch on any more of 'Perplexed's' nine secrets, except No. 7, and then only to warn 'Perplexed' to keep his imagination within bounds when his 'boss' is about. Here are a few figures roughly extracted. 'Perplexed's' average sales per hour amount to 3*s.* 4*d.* Taking the low average of 8*d.* per customer, he serves five customers per hour, or an average of 75 per day. Taking his 'some thousands' passers-by to be 3,000, this means he only secures 2.5 per cent. as customers. Why, even a store manager wouldn't wax happy on that, not to mention the shareholders. When he is a little more successful his views may be more convincing. Until then he should sink into the oblivion from whence I have protestingly arisen. The reasons for one man's success and another's failure are more often than not 'wropt in mystery!' Local conditions, such as change of population, general state of trade, the personal character of one's predecessors, are all factors in the decrease or increase of a business, and must be taken into account when deciding success or failure. Again, turnover is all very well, but what about the rate of profit? I think the best business assets of all are a becoming modesty, a desire to learn, and a broad-minded tolerance towards customers and competitors. Is there not an old adage that says, 'A wise man hides his wisdom, but a fool must show his folly'?"

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

A Camera Customer.

We have been victimised in the following manner: A lad asked to look at a No. 3 F.P. Kodak, and having examined it asked us to send it to an address near by, and should his father approve of the camera they would pay on delivery. He stopped our errand lad, took the camera, and told him to go back for some postcards and bring them on at once and wait for the money. When the lad got to the house they knew nothing of the matter. Our assistant had no suspicion, as a guinea camera was left to be repaired. This is an old trick, and a successful one, and a warning to the errand lads may save others from the trap into which we have fallen.—*Fellwell & Son* (Barnes).

In the interest of the trade we desire to call your attention to the personality of a young rascal now working the ruse of relieving a messenger of goods to be paid for on delivery. A lad of fourteen to sixteen recently selected a 25*s.* focussing Klito camera and 30*s.* $\frac{1}{2}$ -plate rack focus pocket-camera with aluminium baseboard, together with tripod (telescopic) and a selection of plates, papers, and chemicals, and ordered a 4 B E film to be obtained. He accompanied the messenger towards the given address, and when the pair had nearly reached the door the lad asked the messenger to go back and get some postcards which he had forgotten,

and said he would carry the things home the rest of the way, which the messenger did. This lad had curly mid-brown hair, height about 4 ft. 4 in., and has a brownish mark over the pupil of the right eye. If any members of the trade can furnish information that will enable us to capture him, we shall be pleased to forward a guinea to him for his trouble; and the police are acquainted with the matter in detail.—*Picken's Stores, Ltd.* (Forest Gate).

An Appreciation.

Keen, ever on the alert to widen his field of knowledge of those subjects with which he has a practical acquaintance, and thereby actively contribute towards the furtherance of the nation's welfare, a man who takes his duty seriously, Mr. Glyn-Jones is a worthy illustration of the assertion that the House of Commons is becoming more and more an assembly of practical men imbued with the high ideal of regulating the Empire's destiny in a businesslike manner. Particularly with regard to the National Insurance Bill and its bearing upon pharmacy, one (90/15) who has had the privilege of his personal acquaintance was struck with the manner in which he had so thoroughly grasped the essential points of so intricate a question as the relations between pharmacies and sick-clubs in Germany in so short a time, where the conditions are totally different from those prevailing in this country. In spite of the almost insurmountable difficulties in the way of the British pharmacist's participation in this far-reaching scheme, "the member for pharmacy" does not despair, and this speaks volumes for the character of the man. British pharmacy has reason to be proud of Mr. Glyn-Jones, and his task in promoting the welfare of the profession at large would be considerably lightened were his energy and public spirit more generally prevalent in the profession.

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions received by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6*s.*) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

An Atomiser Oil.

J. F. C. (90/44) asks how the following can be made clear:

Menthol.	...	...	...	gr. x.
Resorcin.	...	...	...	gr. v.
Cocain. hyd.	...	...	...	gr. v.
Parolein. ad	...	...	...	3j.

To make a solution for use as an atomiser.

[This cannot be prepared as a clear solution with parolein. Resorcin is not soluble in parolein; even if it be dissolved in oleic acid it is immediately thrown out of solution on addition of parolein. The cocaine, too, is just about as much as the parolein will carry in solution. The following provides a clear solution: Dissolve the resorcin in 2 fluid drachms of oleic acid, using a little heat if necessary; then the cocaine (equivalent in alkaloid), and make up to a fluid ounce with a pale almond oil. Menthol dissolves readily in the oil and gives no trouble. Oleic acid is of less specific gravity than almond oil and brings the gravity of the mixture down towards that of parolein. The prescriber's permission should, of course, be obtained.]

Legal Queries.

Consult the Legal Advice Section of "The Chemists' and Druggists Diary," 1911, p. 435, before writing about your difficulty.

Xcla (104/1) has not sent his name.

Edwards (98/39).—We gather from your statements that the Corn Cure Co. claim the model as their property, and that you have not evidence to disprove the statement, as you took the model over from your predecessor. In these circumstances, you should come to an amicable arrangement with the company.

Radix (99/32).—It is not the custom of the retail drug-trade in Great Britain to regard the engagement of assistants as being in all cases for a month's trial. That must in every case be mentioned at the time of engagement if it is part of the bargain, otherwise the engagement can be terminated only by a month's notice on either side.

Muc. Acacia (98/2).—There is no Revenue order authorising drug-store proprietors who have served a regular apprenticeship to sell medicated wines, such as orange-quinine wine and "Wincarnis with Quinine" without an off-wine licence.

The only order that has been issued recently is one to the effect that no person or company may sell approved medicated wines without a licence unless they carry on business in accordance with the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, Section 3.

F. E. M. (90/2).—Both your labels come within the official ruling that words indicating the action of a remedy upon a part of the body are to be construed as bringing the preparations within the charge of duty. Thus the "tonic, strengthening, nerve-restoring, and brain-stimulating" properties of the tonic elixir form a collocation which brings the elixir on the border-line between liability and non-liability; but we are under the impression that the label and that for Vigor Tonic have been officially marked as "not liable to duty."

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information given in this section during the past twelve months. When references are given to past issues, these should be consulted. Back numbers for the past five years can generally be obtained from our office at the published prices. We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles.

Erythema (91/33).—Your description of rosy red patches on back of hands is very suggestive of RINGWORM. Try rubbing well in ung. hydr. ammon. P.B. twice daily for a week, and then apply a plain dressing. Remember it will take some time for the inflammation to subside after the disease is killed. Take precautions against infection, and inquire as to probable sources of infection; the disease is often acquired from domestic animals.

J. L. R. (Kimberley) (87/42).—CHOREA MEDICINE.—Your letter is interesting in view of the present-day demand of medical men for the total suppression of what they designate as "quacks." "J. L. R." sends a portion of a bottle of medicine which effected a vast improvement in the condition of a child suffering from chorea after the child had been discharged from hospital as incurable. An irregular practitioner took the case in hand, administering a black liquid in doses increasing from 1 to 20 drops each morning. The liquid appears to be some form of crude mineral naphtha. Whether the improvement in the child's health was consequent on the treatment or in spite of the treatment is an open question, but there is no doubt that the irregular practitioner will receive from the public the credit.

E. A. B. (102/33).—ANT-PEST.—The methods of dealing with this were summarised in the *C. & D.*, May 27, index folio 803. Please refer to that issue for the information you require.

Autocar (100/30).—METAL-POLISH.—The formula you require was furnished to you in the issue of the *C. & D.* for June 24, index folio 927.

E. G. (94/5).—SCUM ON BATHING-POND.—We do not know of any feasible chemical method of removing scum of algae from bathing-ponds. It is prevented by adding copper sulphate, a bag of the salt being hung from a boat which is slowly rowed through and across the pond. It requires a solution of copper sulphate, 1 in 1,000,000, to kill algæ. (See *C. & D.*, February 27, 1909, p. 354.)

Fuma (101/58).—Caustic alkali would dissolve horn, but whether suitable for your requirements we cannot judge, as you give us no details.

Larrip (100/35).—MILK-FEVER POWDER FOR COWS.—This is a complex mixture, containing among other ingredients potassium nitrate, sodium bicarbonate, powdered resin, and powdered fenugreek.

Ipecac. (90/72).—CLEANING SUEDE-LEATHER BOOT-TOPS.—Soap and water or oxgall and punice-powder are employed for this purpose, while benzine freshens the surface by dissolving off the dirt that has collected.

Powder (102/36).—INDIGESTION-POWDER.—Your sample resembles the following formula, which is based on analysis:

Bismuth. carb.	...	...	5j.
Sodii bicarb.	...	...	5iij.
Ol. menth. pip.	...	...	℥xxx.

Misce. Half a teaspoonful in half a wineglassful of water just after meals.

T. C. M. (95/18).—OINTMENT FOR ANAL IRRITATION.—This appears to be made on the lines of ung. resorcini co., for which we published formulæ in the *C. & D.*, April 29, index folio 639, and March 25, index folio 456.

W. B. (90/31).—HAIR-RESTORER.—The purpose of the lead-sulphur hair-wash is to restore the colour of grey hair to its former tint. The new hair, which is produced of a golden tint, may be darkened by wetting with the lotion, and when dry treating with a weak solution of liver of sulphur or ammonium sulphhydrate. You should beware of the vagaries of hair-dyes, and not take upon yourself too much responsibility in this matter.

H. S. (90/67).—RUBBING-OILS.—We have not a formula or exactly the lines you indicate, but a few experiments would decide for you the formula to adopt. The following is a suggested recipe:

Lin. camph.	...	...	...	5iv.
Ol. sinapis css.	...	...	...	5j.
Ol. succini	...	...	...	5j.
Ol. nucis	...	...	...	5viij.
Annatto	...	...	...	q.s.

Misce.

Inquirer (95/73).—BLACK-CURRENT COUGH-ELIXIR.—The following is from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

Potass. nitrat.	...	...	...	5iij.
Aq. rosæ	...	...	...	5vj.
Chlorodyni	...	...	...	5iij.
Vin. ipecac.	...	...	...	5iv.
Ext. glycyrrh. liq.	...	...	...	5iv.
Liq. papav. alb.	...	...	...	5iv.
Oxymel. scillæ	...	...	...	5XL.

Dissolve a pound of black-currant jelly in a pint of water, and, having made the above into a mixture *see. art.*, mix the two, set aside for four days, and decant the clear mixture.

Dose: 5j. three times a day.

J. F. C. (90/44).—The dull-green colour of copper roofs is caused by the action of the atmosphere. It could probably be produced quickly by wetting the surface of the copper with vinegar.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," July 15, 1861.

Trade Report.

Throughout the past month the money market has continued very tight, and the Bank rate of 6 per cent. has been firmly maintained; the great drain for sovereigns for America, and the payment for silver for the East, is likely to further enhance the rate of discount. Business in nearly all departments has been very sluggish, the trade buying only from hand to mouth; but during the last few days there is a slight improvement, consequent on the more quiet tone on the Continent and the expectation of a speedy termination of hostilities in America. Consols declined to 89½ ex div., but are now firmer, and yesterday closed at 90 90½ for money and at 90½ 90½ for the next account.

In chemicals there has been rather an improved business, but in many instances lower prices have again been taken. Moderate sales have been made in tartaric acid at 1s. 9d. Citric acid declined to 1s. 8½d. cash and 1s. 9d. usual terms, and now is a shade firmer at the latter price. More doing in sal acetos at 10½d. up to 11½d., according to quantity. Iodine in retail lots has sold at 4½d. for seconds and 5d. for firsts. Oxalic has been sold at 7½d. and 8d. for seconds and 8½d. and 9d. for the best. Soda ash is dull at our quotation. Soda crystals quiet at 4l. 2s. 6d. ex ship. Prussiate of potass quiet at 1s. 1½d. and 1s. 2d. Bichromate remains quiet at 9½d. Sal ammoniac 31s. and 32s. 6d., according to quality. Flour of brimstone dull at 15s. Sulphate of ammonia, retail sales, at 13s. 6d. and 14s. Sulphate of copper 31s. and 31s. 6d., with few sales. Canada ashes have declined, pots to 34s. 6d. and pearls to 36s. Turpentine has been in large demand on speculation, and the price advanced to 52s. 6d. and 53s.; there is now less doing, and the price quiet at 51s. Linseed oil is firmer, and now few sellers under 30s. 6d. here.

The drug market has been quiet, with only small sales. Cape aloes have advanced about 1s. per cwt., good and fine fetching 40s. and 43s. Cardamoms are rather cheaper. Oil aniseed is quiet at 6s. 9d., and oil cassia has declined to 8s. 6d. Castor oil has advanced ¼d. per lb., fine pale firsts selling at 6½d. and 6¾d. and middling to good seconds 5½d. and 6d. China rhubarb is 2d. to 3d. cheaper; a large parcel of good sound sold at 2s. and 2s. 3d., and flat at 2s. and 2s. 1d. Several sales of Tinnevely senna have been sold at full prices. Camphor is rather cheaper; good Japan, in tubs, sold at 11l. 10s.

